

JESSE SNIDER • JASON CRAIG

EVIL ERNIE®



ORIGIN OF EVIL

DYNAMITE

EVIL ERNIE®



EVIL ERNIE®

VOLUME ONE: **ORIGIN OF EVIL**

written by
JESSE SNIDER

art by
JASON CRAIG

colored by
**MARCIO MENYZ
ADRIANO AUGUSTO
MAXFLAN ARAUJO**

lettered by
TROY PETERI

collection cover by
ARDIAN SYAF

collection design by
KATIE HIDALGO

This volume collects issues 1-6 of Evil Ernie by
Dynamite Entertainment.

DYNAMITE®

Nick Barrucci, CEO / Publisher
Juan Collado, President / COO
Rich Young, Director Business Development
Keith Davidsen, Marketing Manager

Joe Rybandt, Senior Editor
Josh Green, Traffic Coordinator
Molly Mahan, Assistant Editor

Josh Johnson, Art Director
Jason Ullmeyer, Senior Graphic Designer
Katie Hidalgo, Graphic Designer
Chris Caniano, Production Assistant

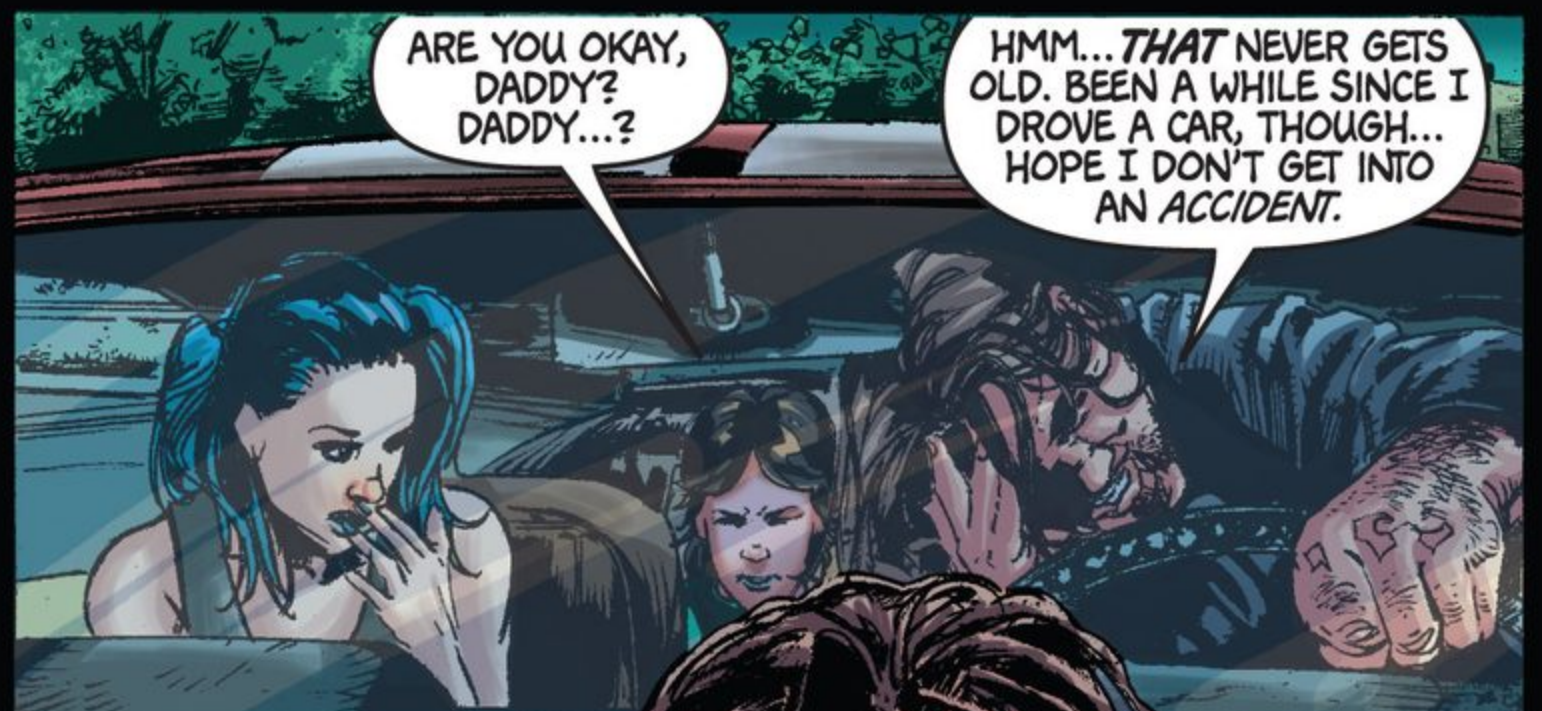


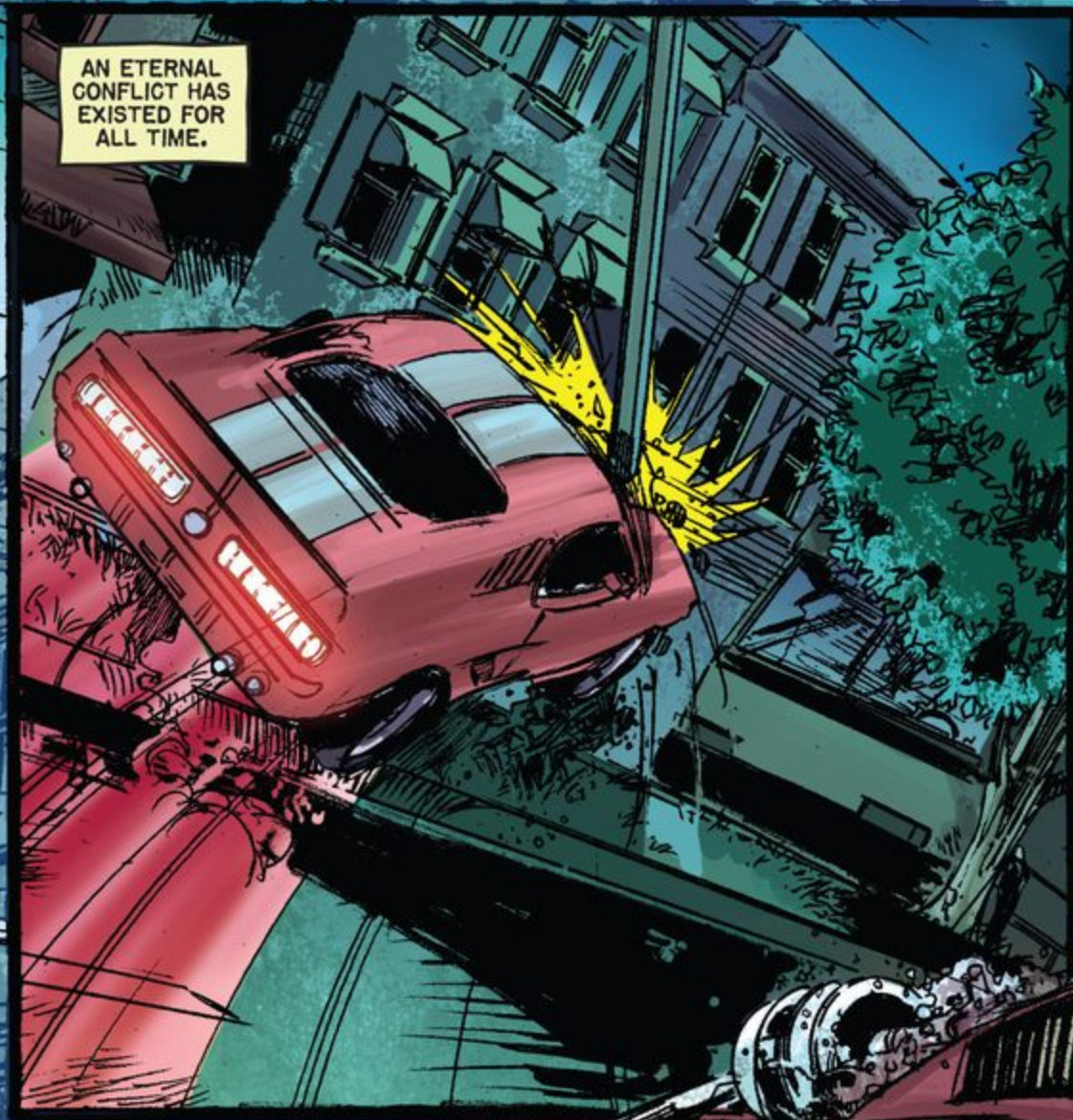
Visit us online at www.DYNAMITE.com
Follow us on Twitter @[dynamitecomics](https://twitter.com/dynamitecomics)
Like us on Facebook /[dynamitecomics](https://www.facebook.com/dynamitecomics)
Watch us on YouTube /[dynamitecomics](https://www.youtube.com/dynamitecomics)

EVIL ERNIE® VOL. 1: ORIGIN OF EVIL. This volume collects material originally published in Evil Ernie #1-6. Published by Dynamite Entertainment, 113 Gaither Dr., STE 205, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054. Evil Ernie and Smiley are © & © 2013 Dynamite Characters, Inc. DYNAMITE, DYNAMITE ENTERTAINMENT and its logo are © & © 2013 Dynamite. All rights reserved. All names, characters, events, and locales in this publication are entirely fictional. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events or places, without satiric intent, is coincidental. No portion of this book may be reproduced by any means (digital or print) without the written permission of Dynamite Entertainment except for review purposes. The scanning, uploading and distribution of this book via the Internet or via any other means without the permission of the publisher is illegal and punishable by law. Please purchase only authorized electronic editions, and do not participate in or encourage electronic piracy of copyrighted materials.

For information regarding press, media rights, foreign rights, licensing, promotions, and advertising e-mail: marketing@dynamite.com







AN ETERNAL
CONFLICT HAS
EXISTED FOR
ALL TIME.



A WAR BETWEEN
GOOD AND EVIL...

HEAVEN AND
HELL...

GOD...

...AND THE
DEVIL.



AFTER DEATH, MORAL
SOULS RISE TO HEAVEN
AND JOIN THE RANKS OF
GOD'S ARMIES.



IMMORAL SOULS SINK
BELOW AND JOIN THE
FIGHT FROM THE
OTHER SIDE.



AS EVERYONE
KNOWS...

...THE *GOOD*
DIE YOUNG.



THIS IMBALANCE ON EARTH
KEEPS HEAVEN STRONG
AND HELL *WEAK*...



...BUT THE FORCES
OF *HELL* HAVE BEEN
CLANDESTINELY
MOVING TO TIP THE
SCALES BACK THE
OTHER WAY.

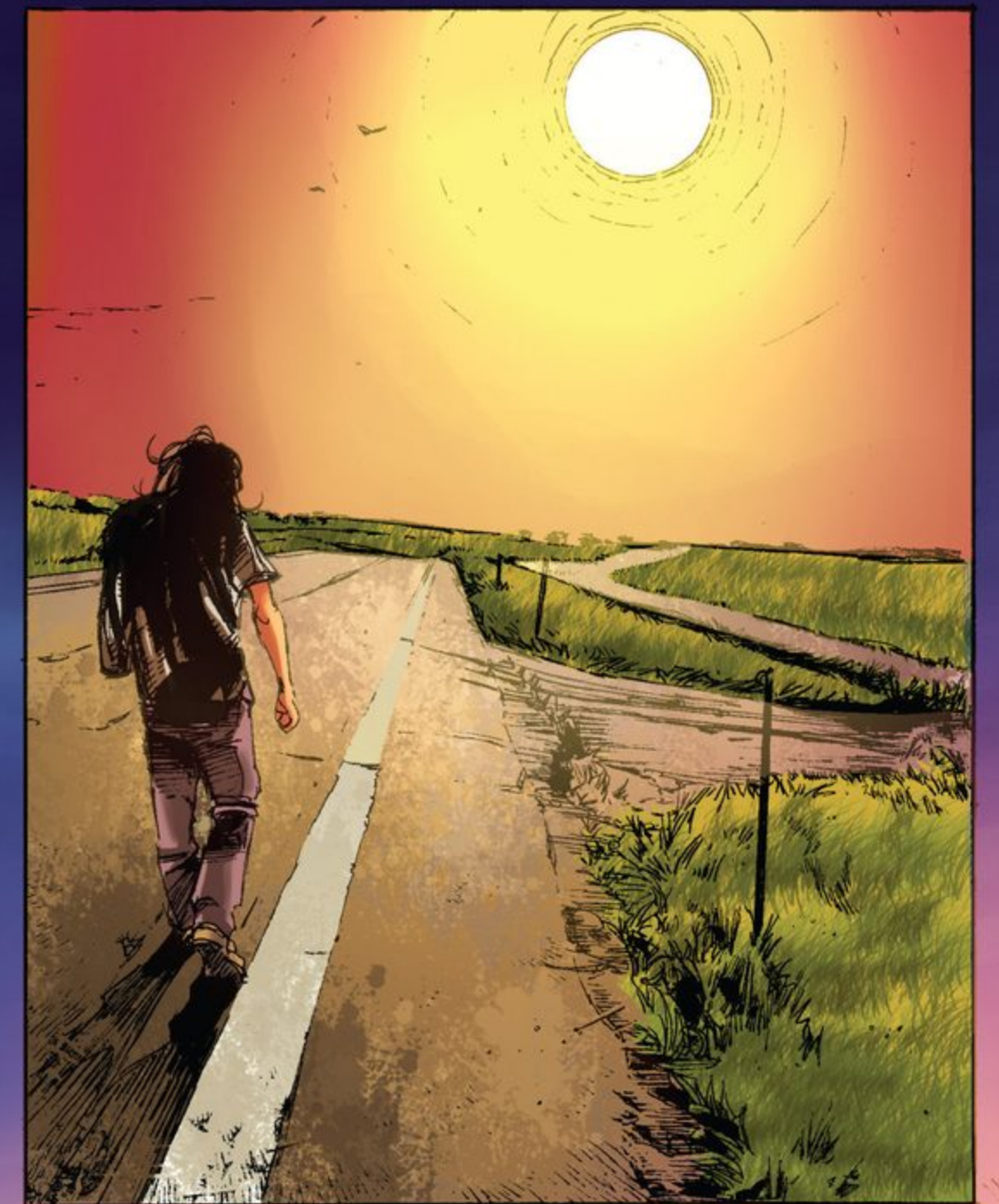
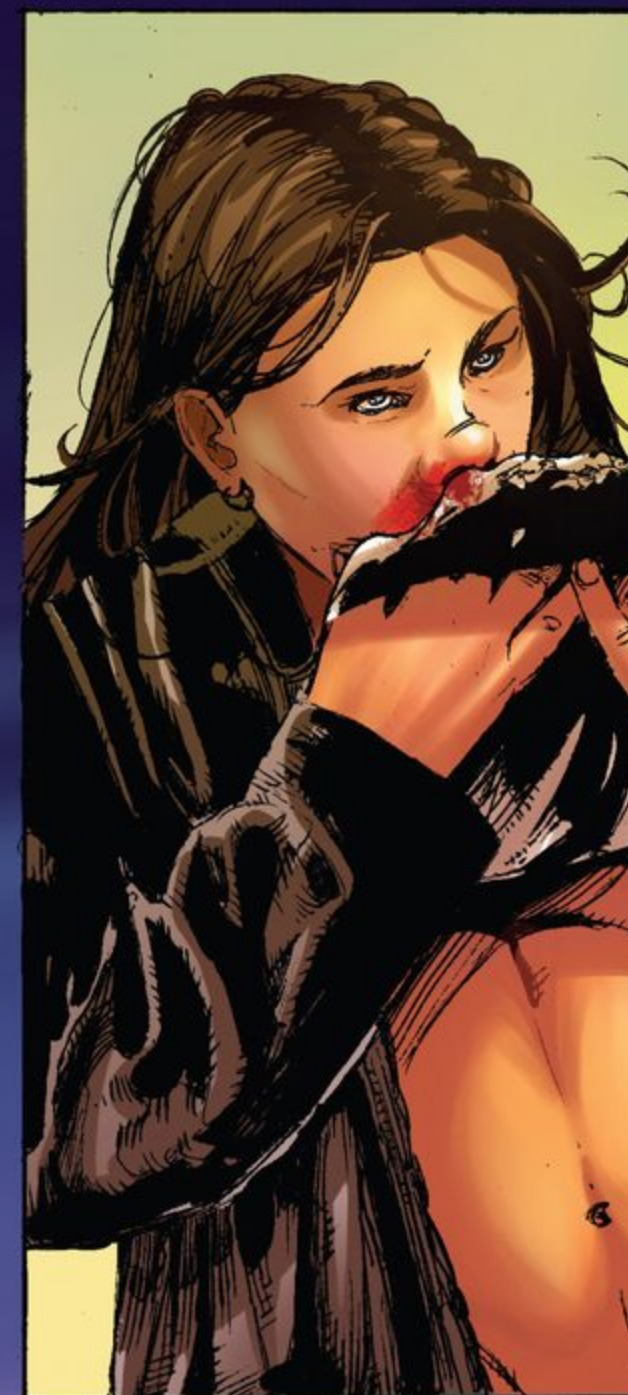
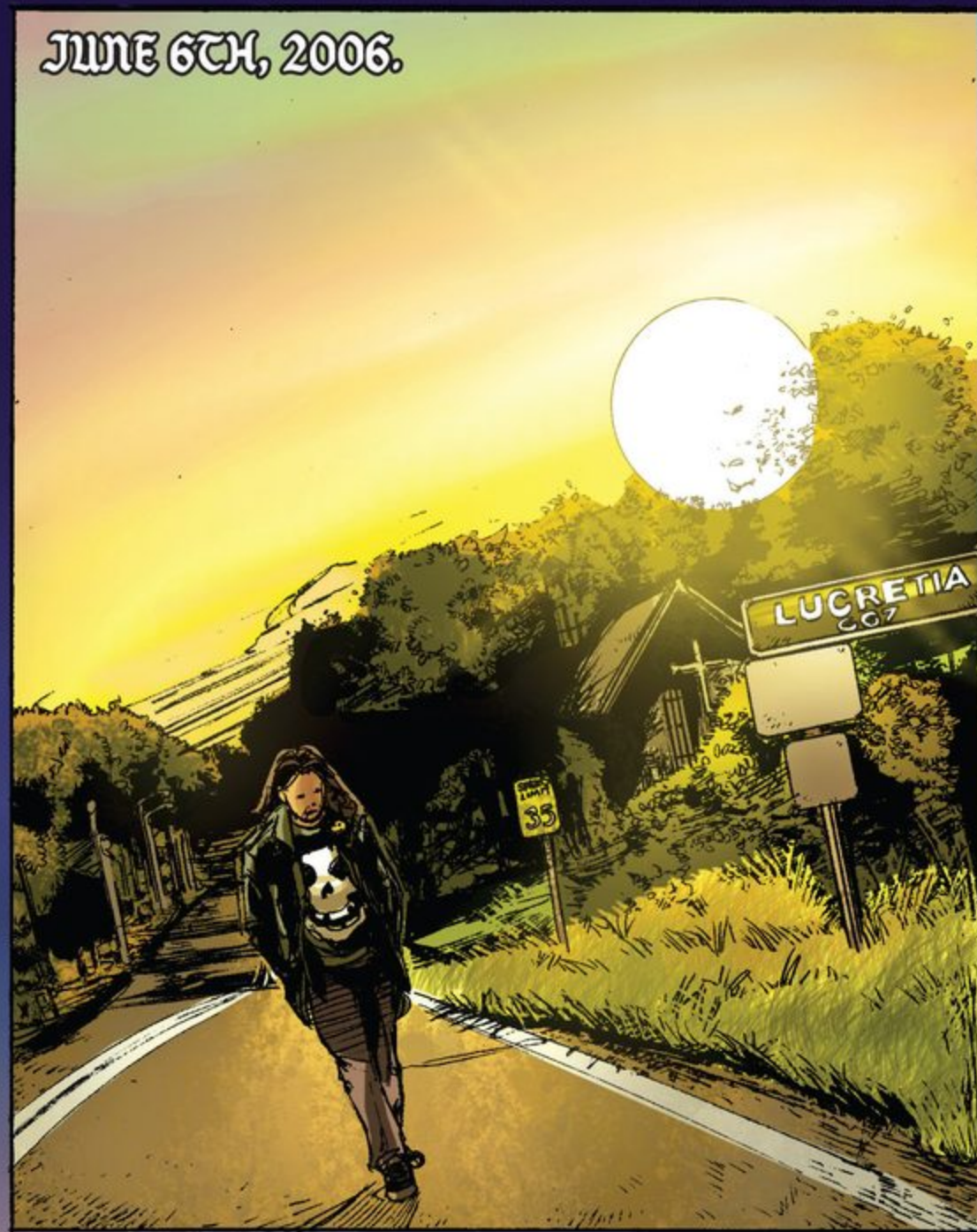


BUMP-UMP...
BUMP-UMP...



BUMP-UMP...
BUMP-UMP...

JUNE 6TH, 2006.



Widmark maximum
security prison.

"NAME?"

"ERNEST."

"FULL
NAME?"

"ERNEST
FAIRCHILD."





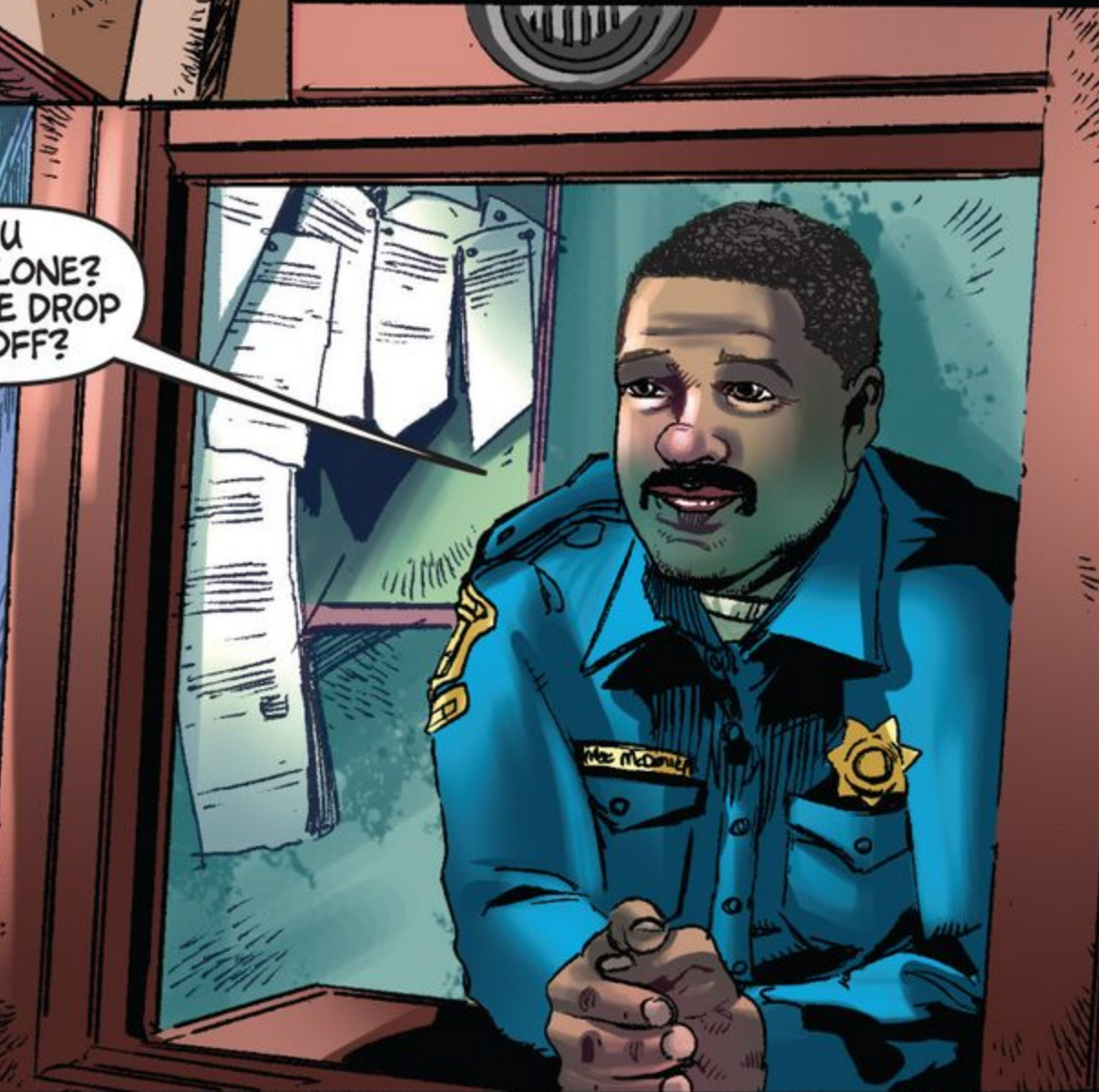
HOW OLD ARE YOU?



THIRTEEN.

YOU HERE ALONE?
SOMEONE DROP YOU OFF?

I WALKED.



WHERE FROM?

LUCRETIA.

LUCRETIA?! THAT'S LIKE, WHAT? TWENTY-SOMETHING MILES? TO COME VISIT SOMEONE IN A PRISON? HOW YOU PLANNING TO GET HOME?

WALK.



JESUS... HOPE HE'S GETTING OUT SOON. YOU DON'T WANNA GO MAKING THIS A HABIT. COULDN'T YOUR *MOTHER* DRIVE YOU?

SHE WORKS.

I BEEN THERE. MY MOMS USED TO WORK A LOT TOO.

LOOK, I GET OFF IN ABOUT AN HOUR; I'LL GIVE YOU A RIDE HOME, OKAY?



OKAY. THANK YOU...MAC.



YOU'RE WELCOME, ERNIE... NOW, I'M DYING TO KNOW; WHO YOU HERE TO SEE?

BUFORD KING.

RELATION?



HE'S MY FATHER.



ERNIE...?



THE
FUCK DO YOU
WANT...?





now.



...CARMEN ESPOSITO, COMING TO YOU LIVE FROM WIDMARK PRISON, WHERE ERNEST FAIRCHILD IS MOMENTS AWAY FROM BECOMING THE YOUNGEST PERSON TO BE EXECUTED IN THE UNITED STATES IN OVER 60 YEARS.



JUNE 6TH, 2006...

...THE LUCRETIA MASSACRE...

MURDERED 665 PEOPLE IN HIS ADOPTED HOMETOWN...

...FIVE YEARS ON DEATH ROW...



THE PROTESTERS BEHIND ME RUN A WIDE RANGE...

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES OF THE VICTIMS...

RELIGIOUS FANATICS...

SATANIST CULT MEMBERS...

...ANTI DEATH PENALTY ACTIVISTS...

...AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN.



EARLIER TODAY...

AN ODD LAST REQUEST WAS HONORED...

...AT THE ADVICE OF PRISON PSYCHOLOGIST DR. LEONARD PRICE...



...ALLOWING ERNIE TO WEAR THE BLACK LEATHER JACKET...

...INFAMOUS SMILEY-FACED BUTTON...

...DURING HIS EXECUTION.

...CLAIMS
THE BUTTON
SPEAKS TO
HIM.

...HELPED
HIM SELL HIS
SOUL TO THE
DEVIL.

...TOLD HIM
WHERE TO
FIND THE
ARSENIC.

...HOW TO DELIVER IT
INTO LUCRETIA'S WATER
SUPPLY.

DESPITE
THIS...

...PRICE CLAIMED THE
JACKET AND BUTTON
TO HAVE A "CALMING
INFLUENCE"...

AMEN.

WE GIVE HIM
GLORY AS WE GIVE
YOU INTO HIS ARMS IN
EVERLASTING PEACE, TO
BE PREPARED TO RETURN
INTO THE DENSER REALITY
OF GOD THE FATHER,
CREATOR OF ALL. AMEN,
AMEN, AMEN.

...LIKE IT
OR NOT...

...THERE'S
NO DOUBT THE
BUTTON WILL BE
THE ONLY SMILING
FACE IN THE
EXECUTION
CHAMBER.





AMONGST THE WITNESSES...



...SOLE SURVIVOR...



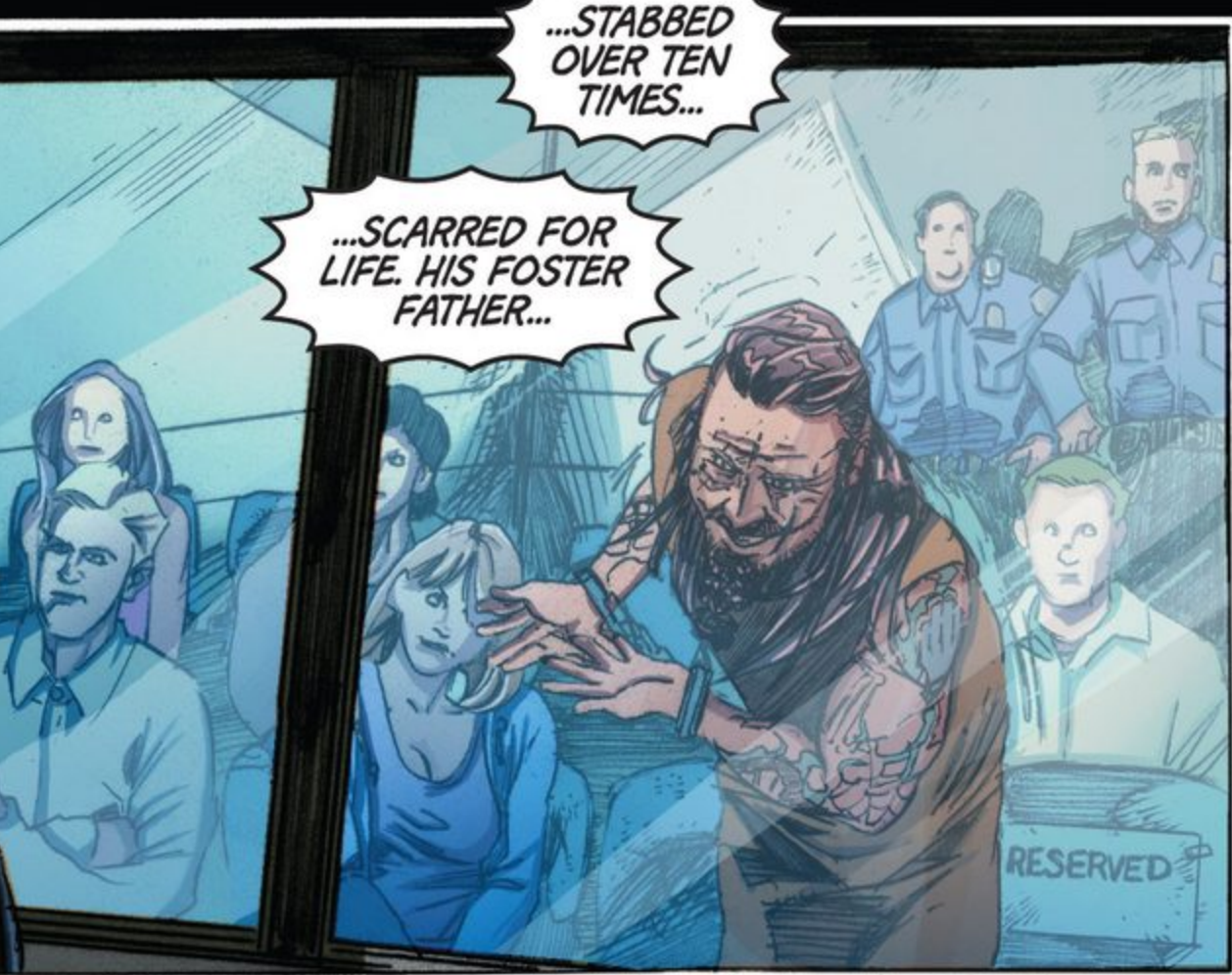
...FAIRCHILD'S WOULD-BE 666TH CASUALTY...

...ALMOST DIED FROM BLOOD LOSS...



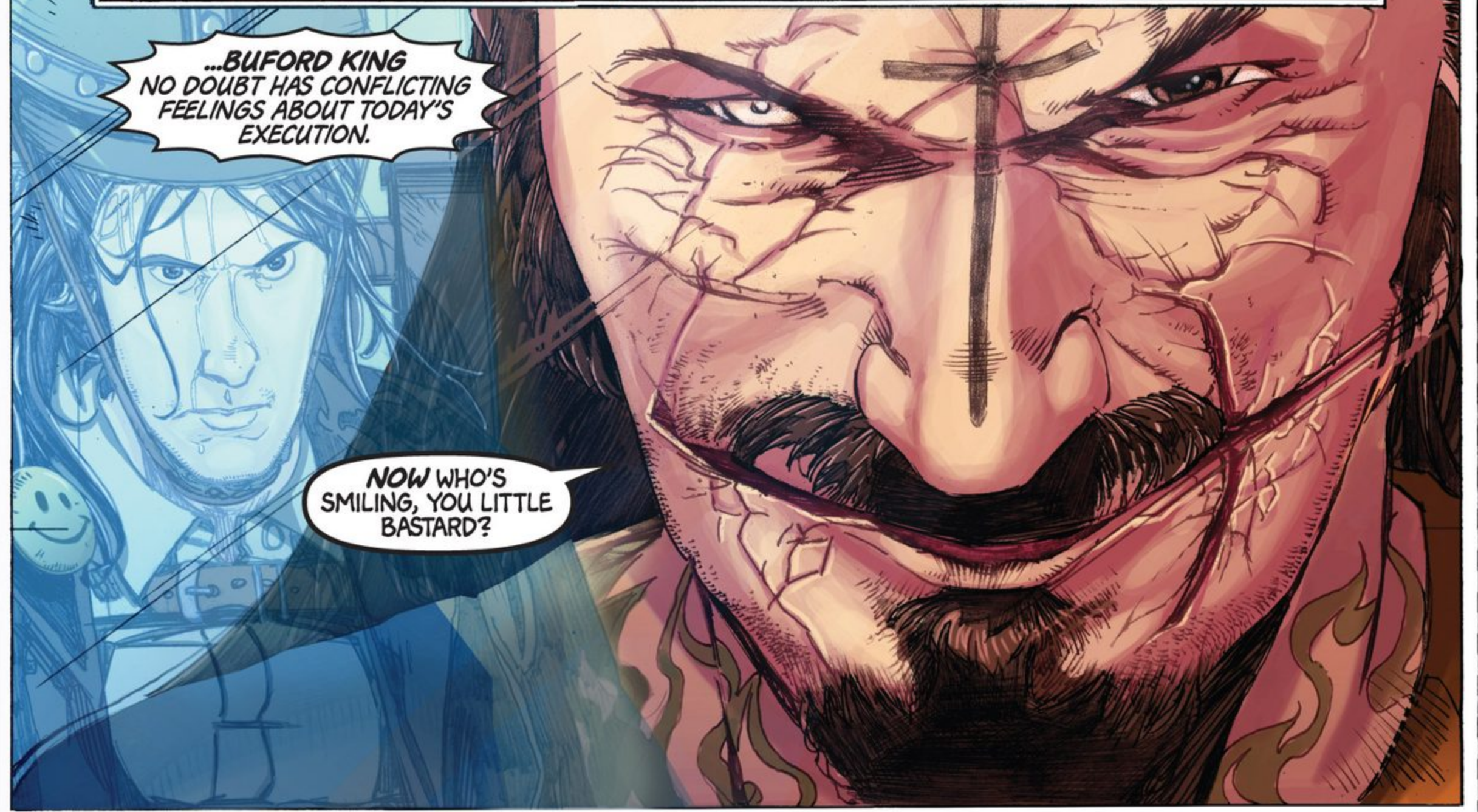
...STABBED OVER TEN TIMES...

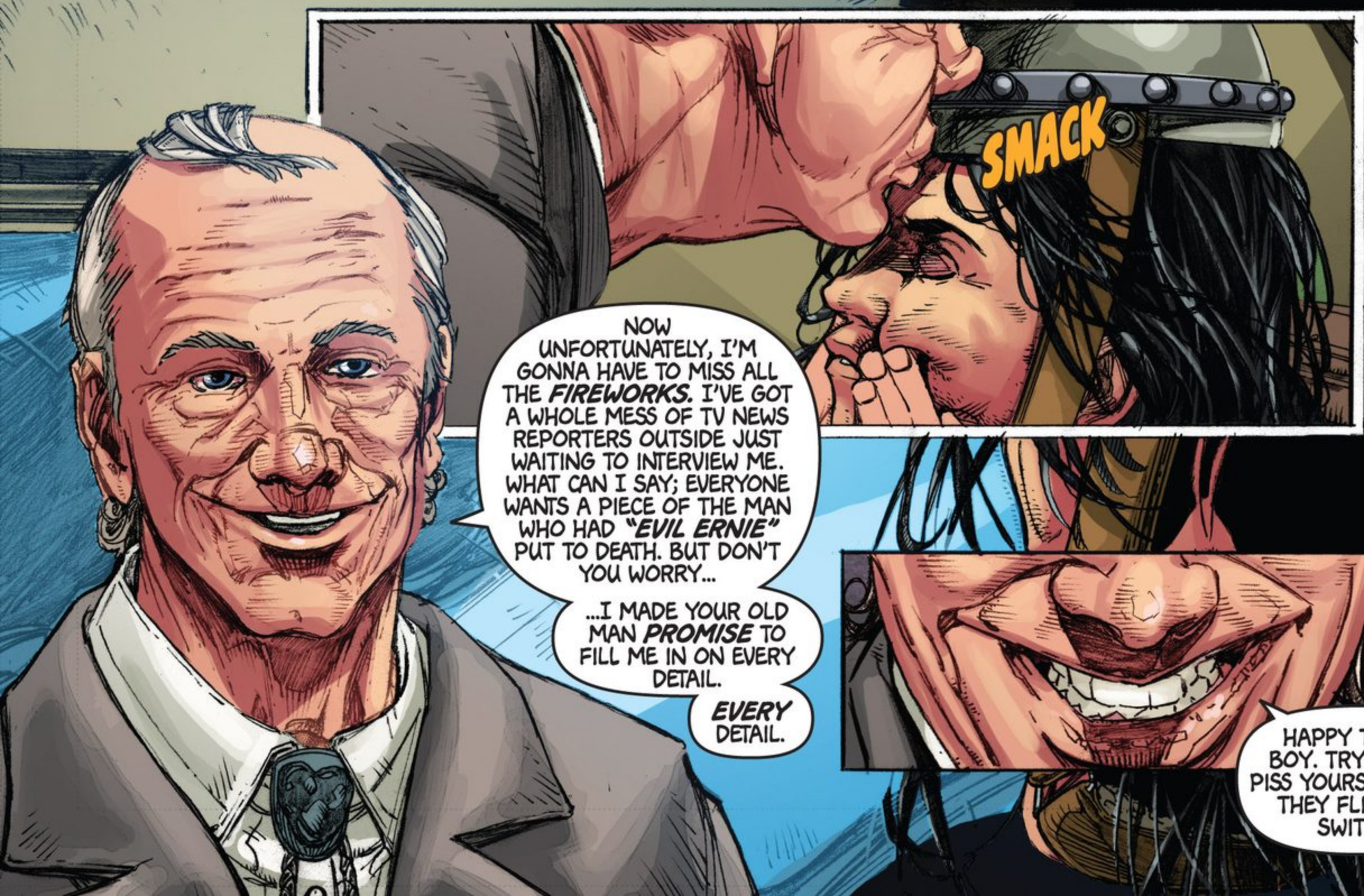
...SCARRED FOR LIFE. HIS FOSTER FATHER...

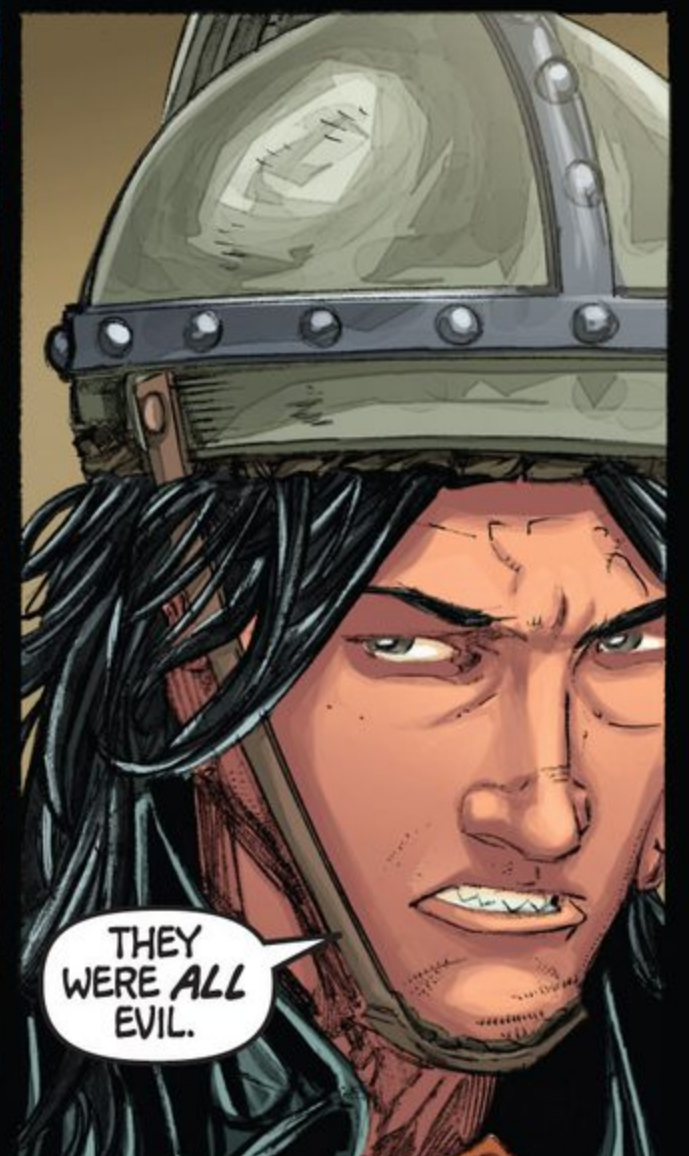


...BUFORD KING NO DOUBT HAS CONFLICTING FEELINGS ABOUT TODAY'S EXECUTION.

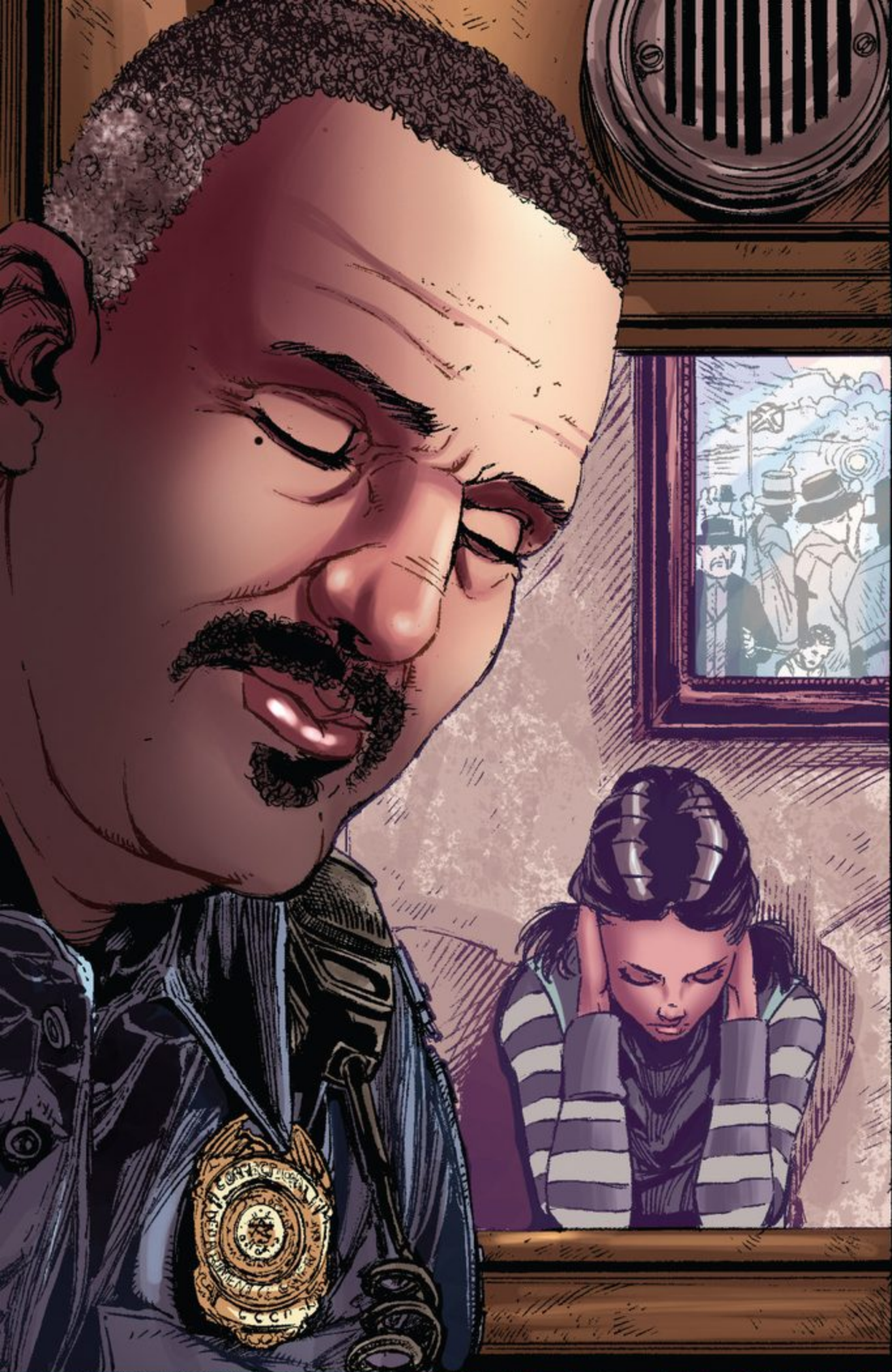
NOW WHO'S SMILING, YOU LITTLE BASTARD?











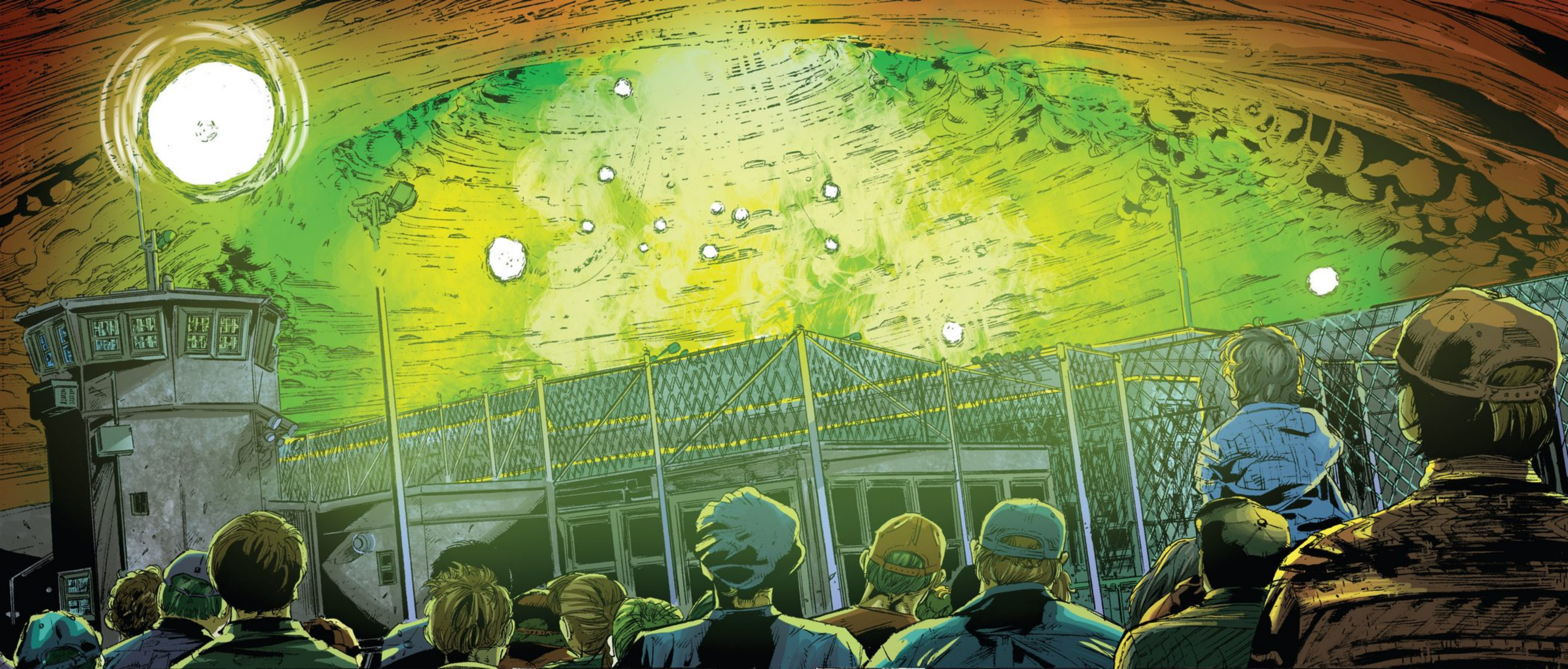
SHOULDN'T DOCTOR THOMAS DO THAT?

SHE HAD TO STEP OUT.

...HE'S DEAD.

HA!

HEH, HEH. TELL THE DEVIL I SAID, "HI."

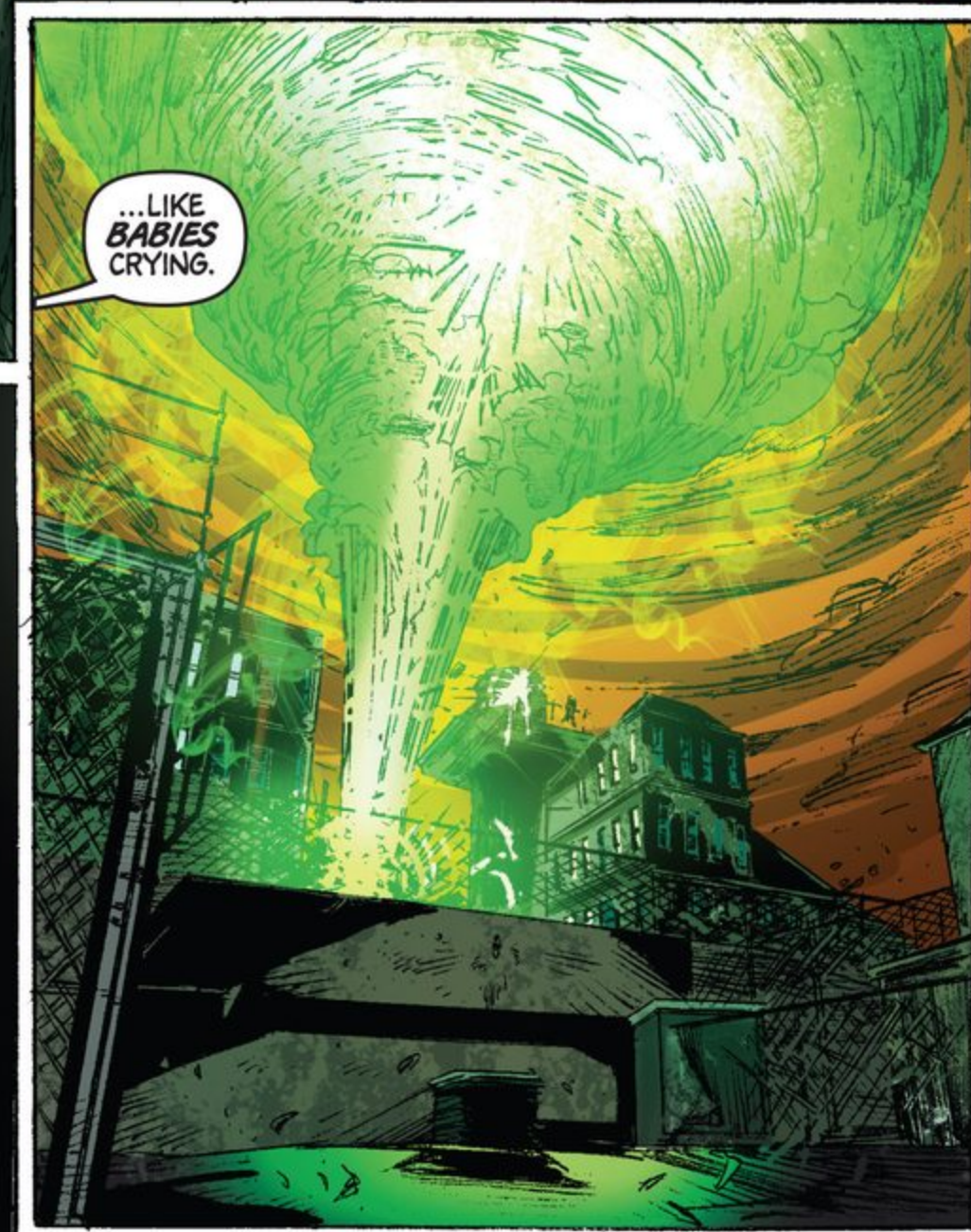


THE LIGHTS...?
DON'T WE HAVE
A BACKUP
GENERATOR?

YEAH. THEY
SHOULD
HAVE COME
BACK ON BY
NOW.



YOU HEAR
THAT...?



...LIKE
BABIES
CRYING.

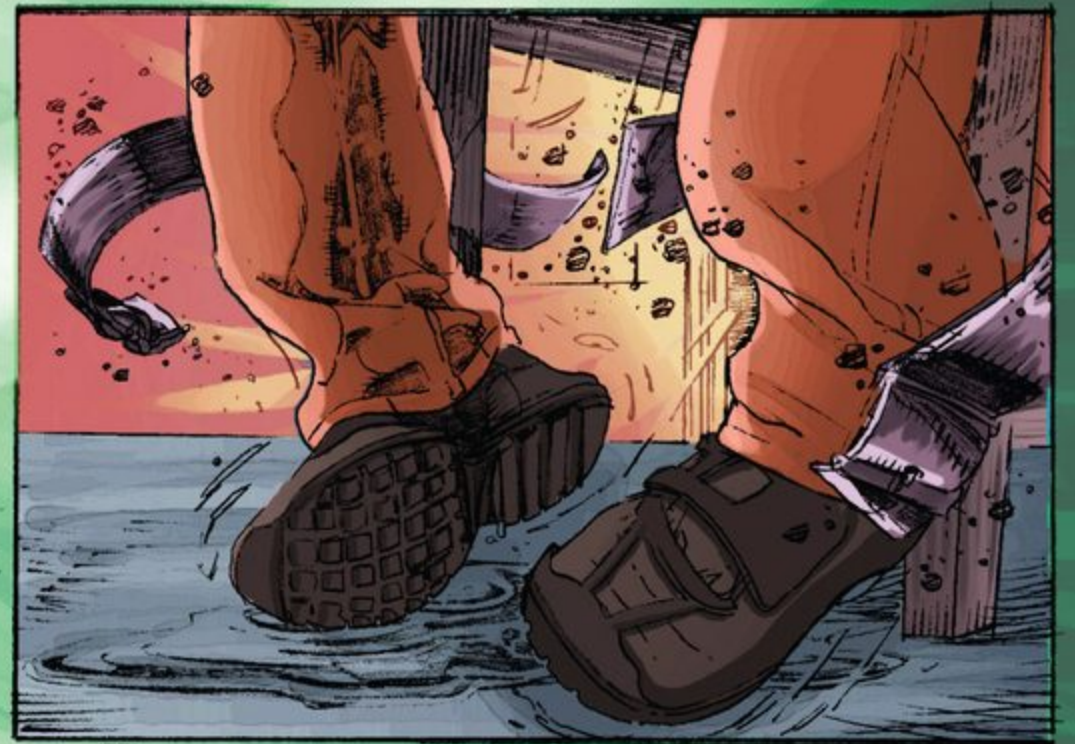


KKZZZZZZKKKKSSSSHHHHH

EEEEAAAAGGGGHHH!



AAAGGGGHHLLKK!





WHAT IS LIGHT...
WITHOUT DARKNESS?

GOOD...

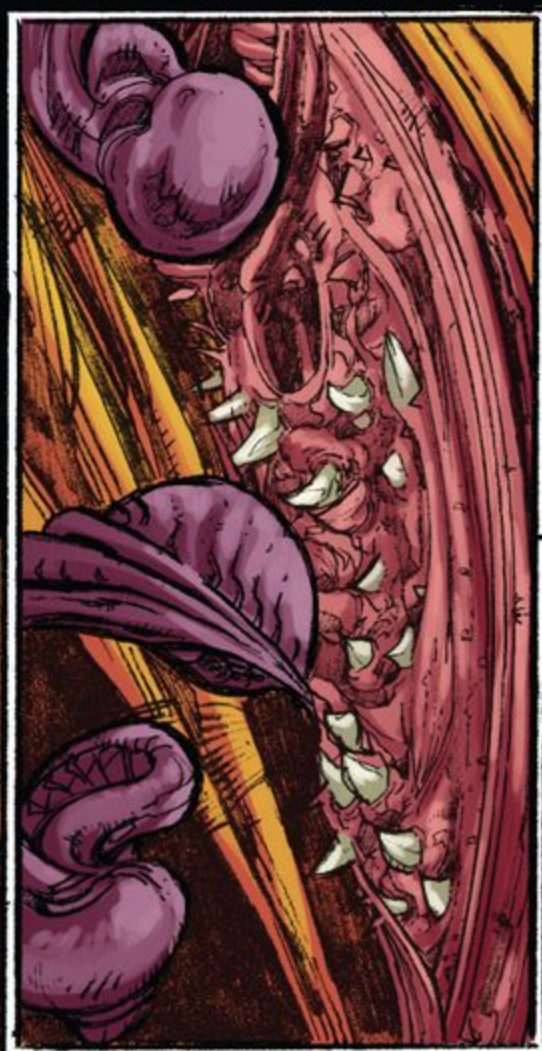
...WITHOUT
EVIL?

HEAVEN HAS LONG
BEEN AFRAID TO
FIND OUT.

SIX HUNDRED AND
SIXTY-FIVE
SOULS...

...ONE
TO GO.

OH,
SHIT.



THE DEVIL'S WORK PUTS MAN'S
WORST NIGHTMARES TO SHAME.



HATE THE
SIN...

...LOVE THE
SINNER!







10 YEARS AGO

ERNIE, THE
HOUSE BEST BE
ON FIRE!

NO,
SIR.

THEN WHAT
IS IT, YOU LITTLE
RAT?! WE'RE...
"SLEEPING."

WELL...
I'M C-COLD AND I
DON'T HAVE A BLANKET
OR NOTHING...AND I WAS
WONDERING IF I COULD,
IF I COULD...MAYBE
SLEEP IN BED
WITH-WITH YOU?

YOU HEAR
THAT, EUNICE?
ERNIE'S COLD.
GO GET THE
IRON...

...I THINK I
KNOW HOW TO
WARM HIM
UP.



now.

WELL...
THIS IS
AWKWARD.

FUH-FUH-
FREEZE!

"FUH-FUH-
FREEZE?!"
DON'T
BE SUCH A
PUSSY!









HEEEERRRRRE'S ERNIE!

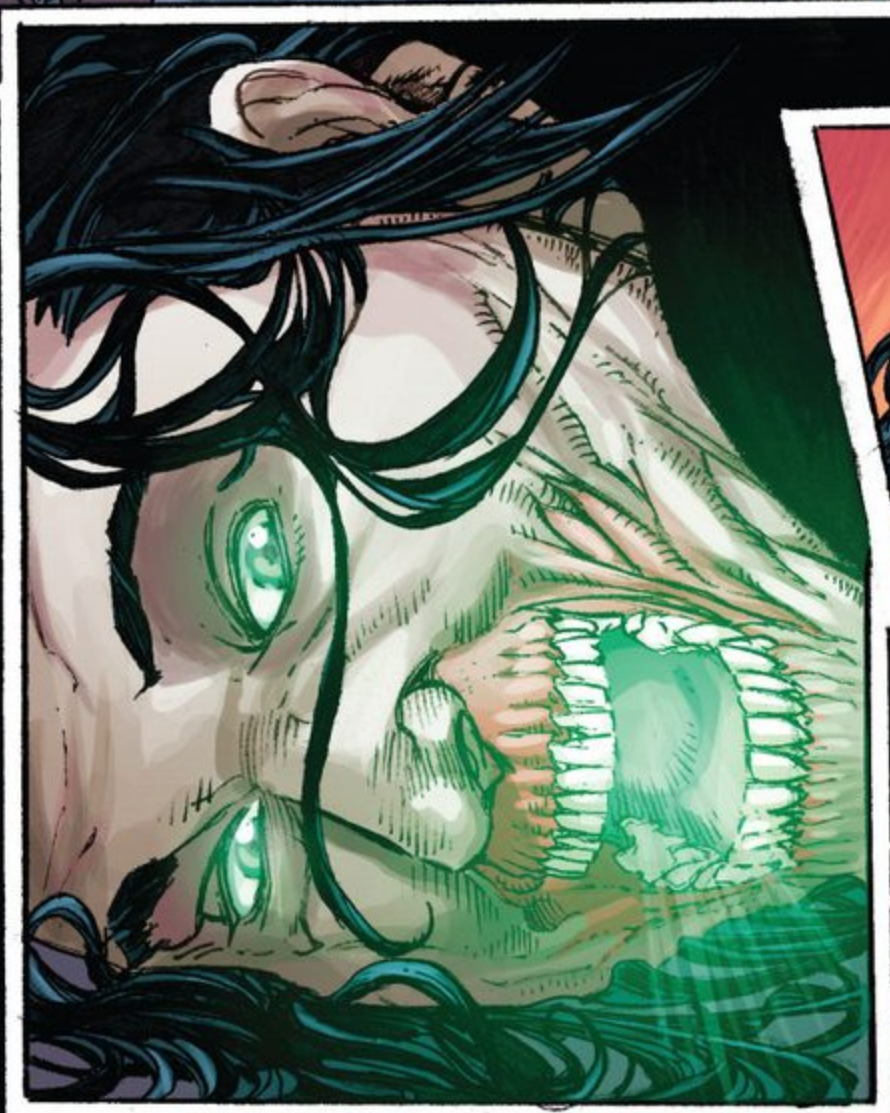




ALL RIGHT, HE'S DOWN!

NOW WHAT?

NOW...?



...HEH HEH.



THE FUCK...?!

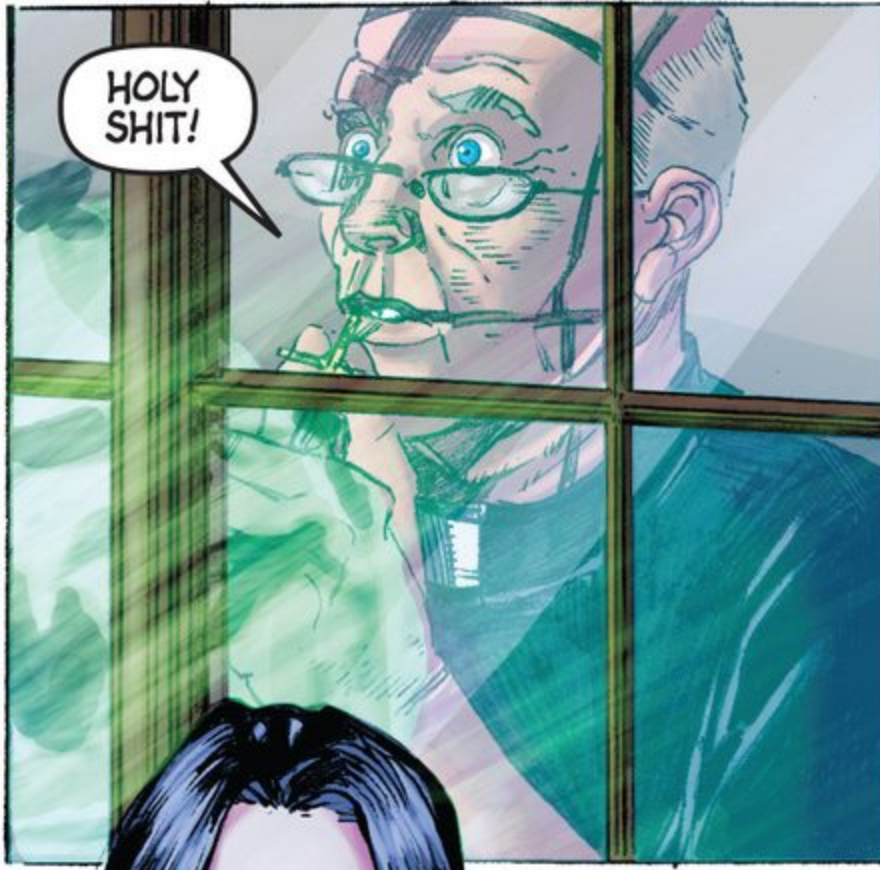
HIS HEADS ON BACKWARDS!

WHY'S HE LOOKING AT US LIKE THAT?

WHO GIVES A SHIT? HE CAN'T HURT US, WE GOT HIS HANDS.



NO, NO, NO, WAIT, ERNIE... DON'T--!





LET
ME IN, YOU
BASTARDS!



OPEN THE
DOORS!

OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN
HALLOWED BETHY NAME THY KINGDOM
COME....!



WHERE
ARE YOU GOING,
DICKLESS?!

THIS IS
THE STORY
OF YOUR
LIFE!



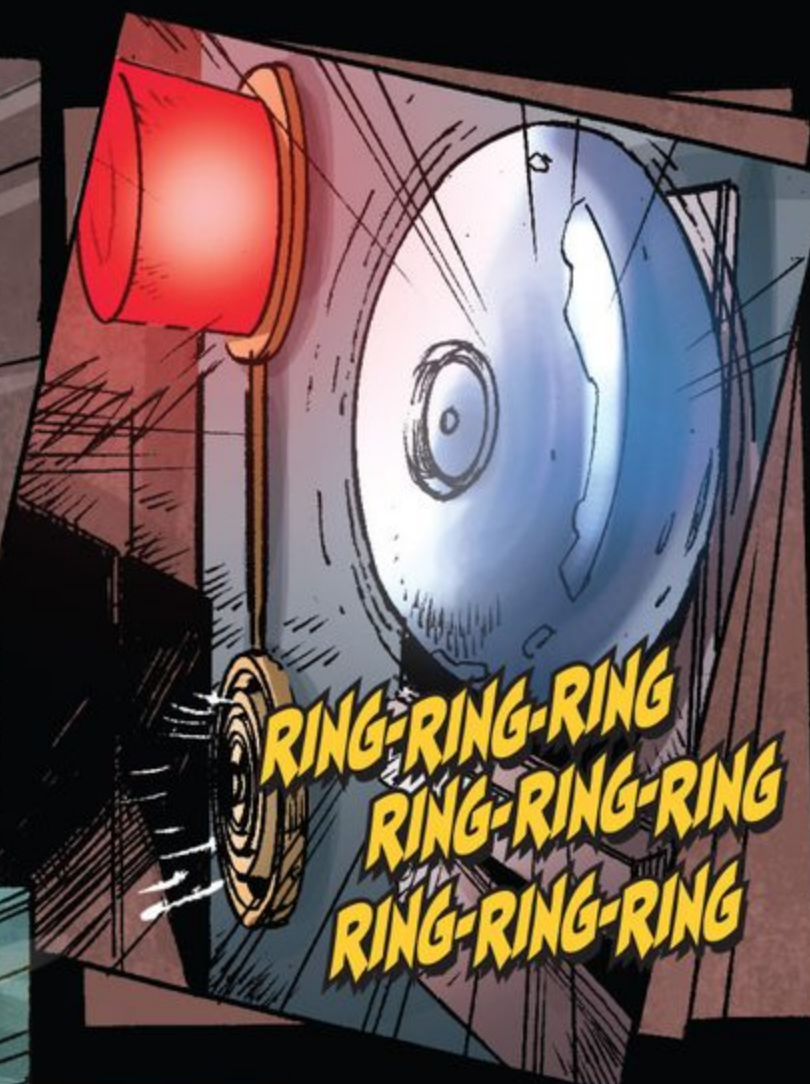
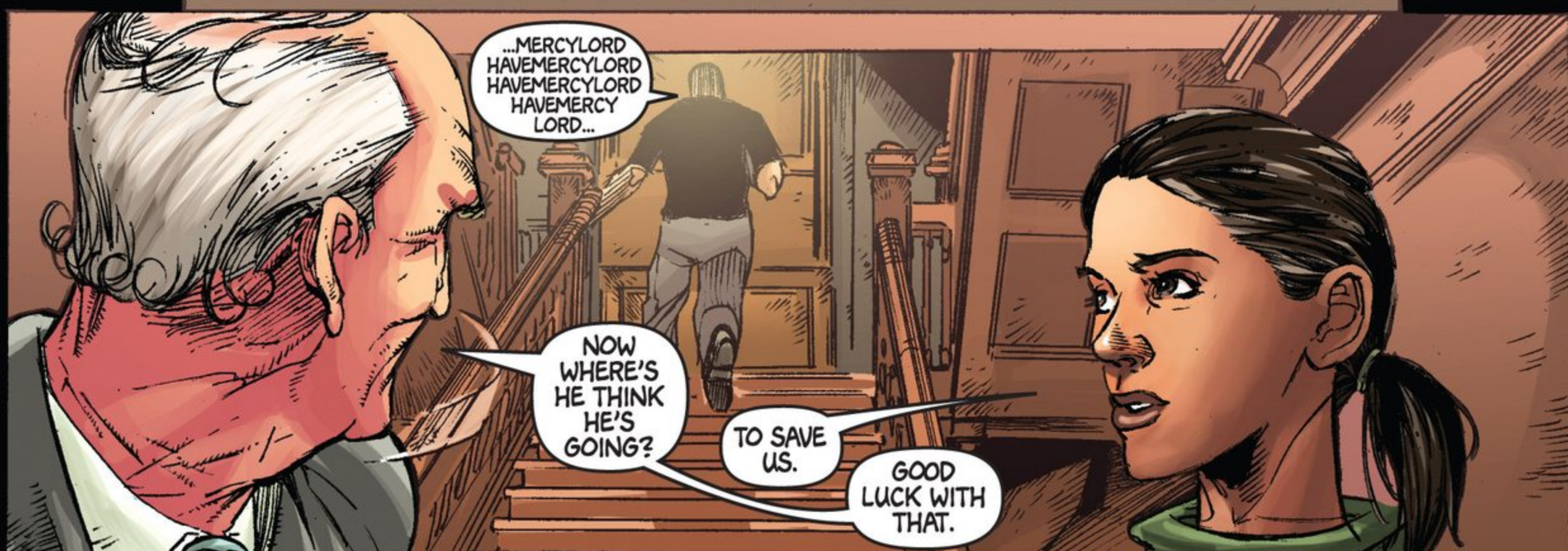
STORY OF
YOUR LIFE, AND
I'VE GOT NEWS
FOR YA...



...IT'S
SHORT.

GET BACK
HERE, YOU
ASSHOLE...!

...YOU'RE
FIRED!





IDIOT!

WHAT DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND ABOUT THE WORDS, "NO," "NO," "NO," "WAIT" AND "ERNIE?!"



THREE OF THEM ARE THE SAME WORD AND ONE OF THEM IS YOUR FUCKING NAME!

I HEARD YOU. WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?



LOOK AT ME, KID! LOOK AT ME AND LISTEN!



I'M YOUR ONLY FRIEND IN THE WORLD AND I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO'S *EVER* GONNA GIVE IT TO YOU STRAIGHT.



YOU STARTED SOMETHING FIVE YEARS AGO, A RITUAL THAT REQUIRED THE SACRIFICE OF *SIX HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIX* SINNERS WHOM *YOU* CHOSE! YOU'RE *ONE* SHORT.

THIS POWER YOU HAVE NOW, IT'S FLEETING, IT'S *NOTHING*. IT'S JUST A TASTE OF WHAT YOU'LL HAVE ONCE YOU *KILL BUFORD*.



SO...?

SO, IF YOU KEEP USING IT, IT'S GONNA RUN OUT!

NOW...LET'S STOP *FUCKING AROUND* AND KILL THAT BASTARD LIKE--



ALL RIGHT, WHO'S THE FUNNY MAN WITH THE LASER POINTER?!

ON THE GROUND! HANDS ON YOUR HEAD!



WE HAVE YOU
SURROUNDED!

THAT'S A
LOTTA LASER
POINTERS...

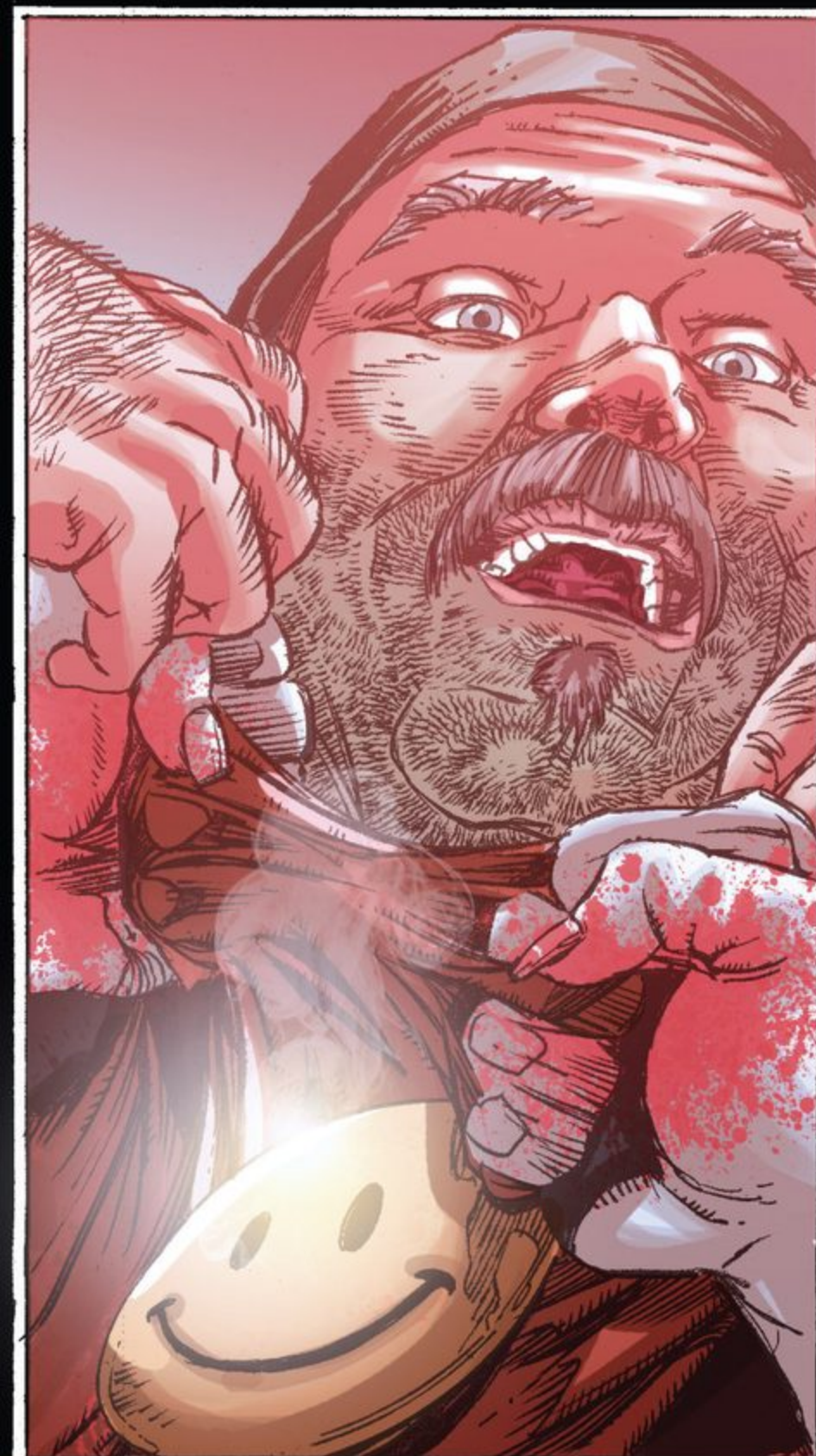
ERNIE, REMEMBER
WHAT I SAID ABOUT
NOT USING YOUR
NEW POWERS?

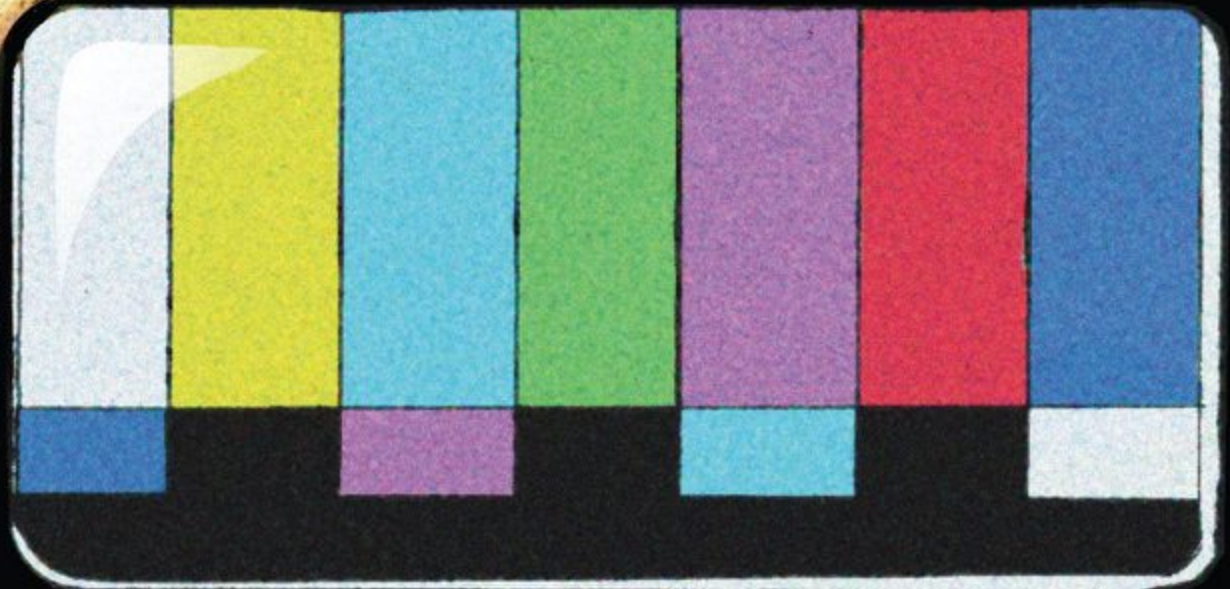
YEAH...

FUCK IT.



BANG







BUFORD...
COME OUT AND
PLAY!



HA, HA! EVEN
BETTER.



STRAAAW....



PEDOPHILE

HE WENT
THAT WAY!

MAC...?



WHO
DID THIS?!
STRAW?!

WHAT?!
NO! OF
COURSE
NOT!



NO.
COUGH! IT
WAS BUFORD.
HE...HE TOOK
THANA. YOU
GOTTA SAVE
HER.



YES!
QUICK!

HELL YEAH! A REAL
LIFE DAMSEL IN ACTUAL
DISTRESS; LET'S SAVE
THE BITCH!



IN A
MINUTE.

OH...
RIIIGHT.



NO, NO, NOT ME!
BUFORD'S THE ONE
YOU WANT! HE'S GOT
THANA! THERE'S NO
TIME TO WASTE!

I'LL
MAKE
TIME.



LOOK, I WAS
PROTECTING YOU...
FROM-FROM...
FROM THOSE
ANIMALS!

I'D SHUT
UP IF I WERE
YOU.

IF IT WASN'T
ME, IT WOULD--

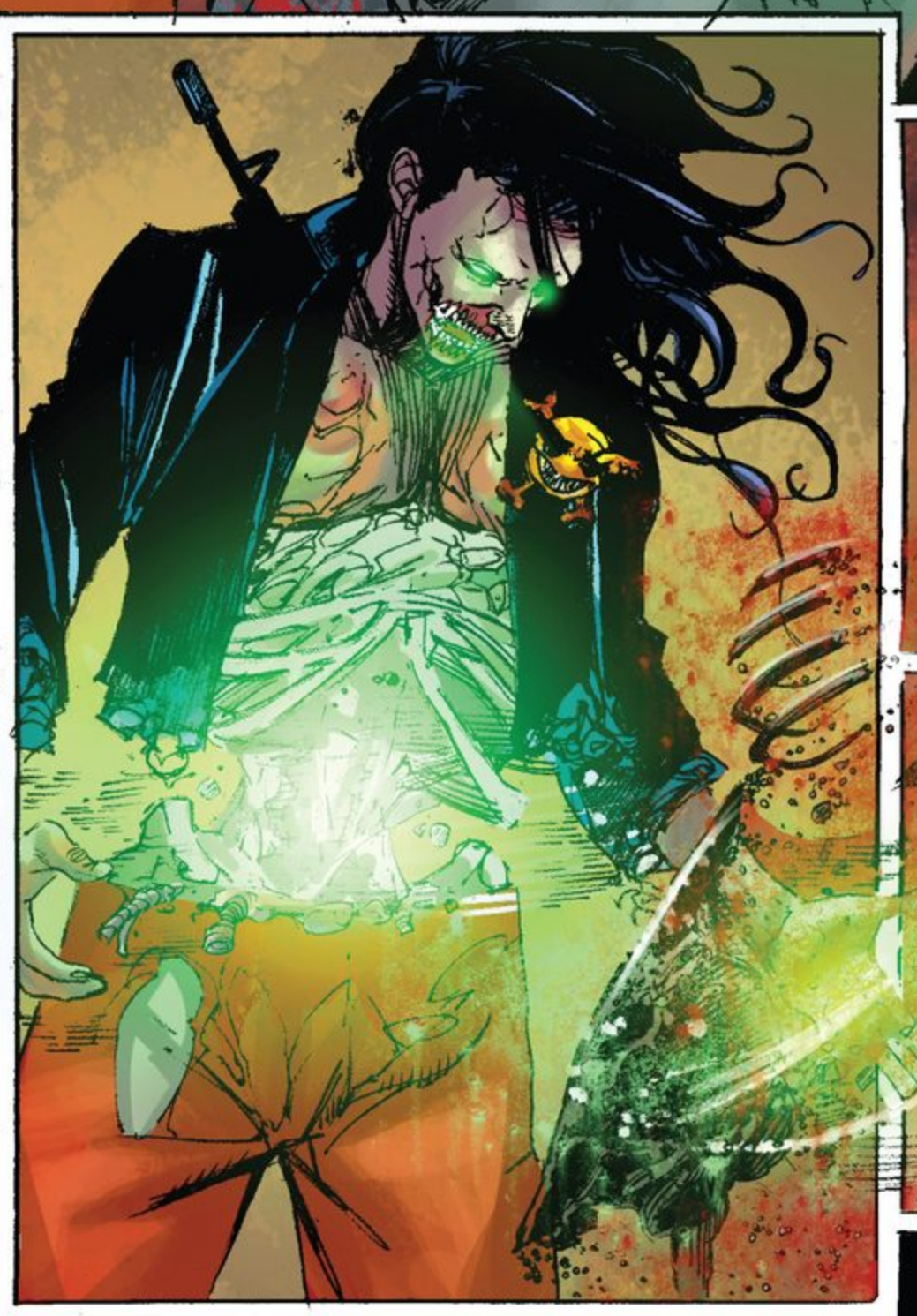
ARRGGHH!

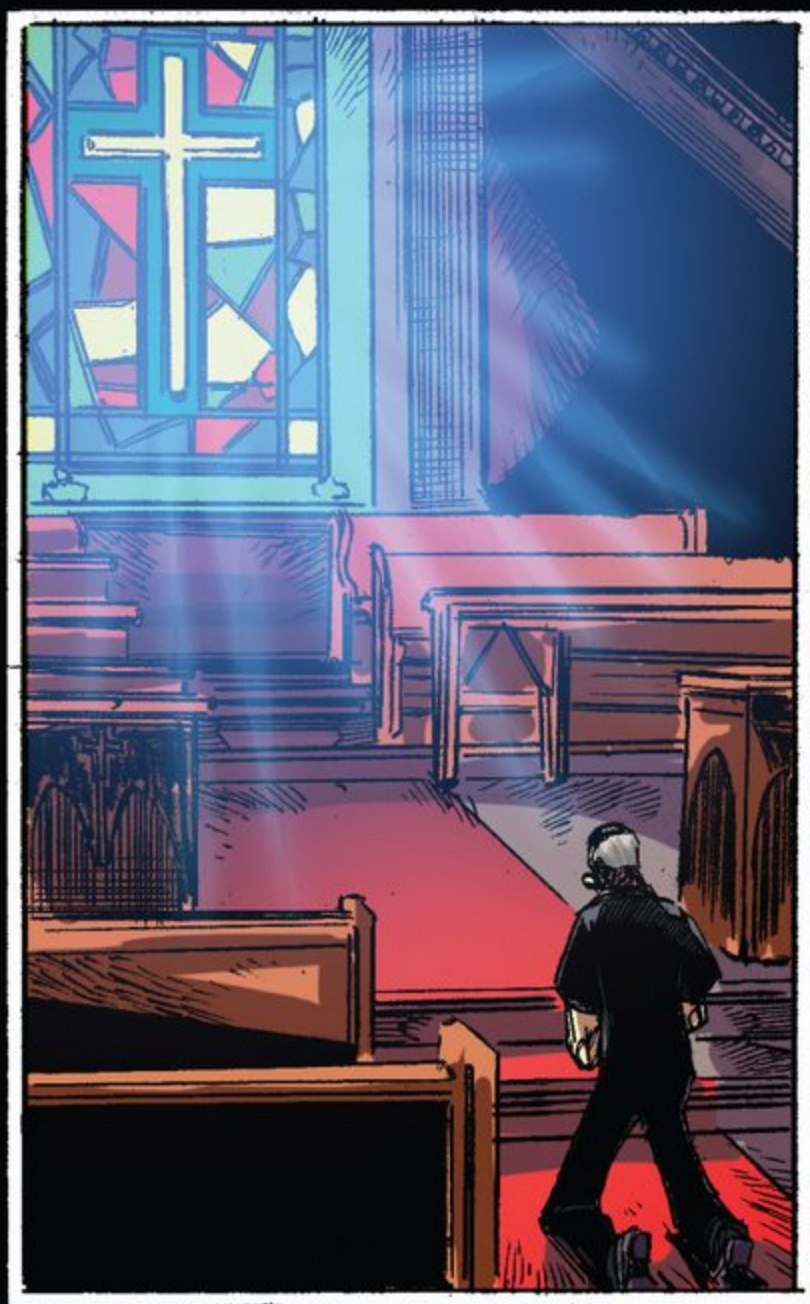


AAAAAAHHHH!



DON'T WORRY...
I KNOW YOU LIKE
IT **SLOW.**









HEY,
SON...

...BEEN
WAITIN' FOR
YA.

Fwwoooo...

SHIT...

...WHILE I AM
TOTALLY THE TYPE
TO SAY, "I TOLD
YOU SO"...

...I'LL WAIT
A MONTH.

HE'S OUTTA
JUICE; **RUSH**
HIM!





Widmark maximum
security prison.

5 YEARS AGO.

WHO
DID THIS TO
YOU?





...NOT ANYMORE.



now.

I TOLD YOU SO!



HA-HAH, HA-HA, HA-HAH!

ERNIE!

WE'RE ALL OUTTA JUICE! NOW WHAT, ASSHOLE?!



YOU KNOW,
MAYBE LIFE
JUST ISN'T FOR
EVERYONE.

WAI--!

BROKKOTTO-BROKKOTTO-BROKKOTTO-BROKKOTTO

IT'S
DEFINITELY
NOT FOR THAT
GUY.

BROKKOTTO-BROKKOTTO
BROKKOTTO-BROKKOTTO

OR
THEM.

BROKKOTTO-BROKKOTTO-BROKKOTTO-BROKKOTTO

CLICK
CLICK
CLICK





MAKE ME!

ON SECOND
THOUGHT, I *WILL*
"SHUT UP." GOOD
LUCK ON YOUR
OWN, ASS
GLOWN!

HIS
FUCKING
BUTTON
BIT OFF MY
FUCKING
FINGER!



A FINGER LOST
IS A LESSON
LEARNED.

I DIDN'T
THINK YOU
HAD IT IN YA,
"SON"!

I MEAN, A DEAL
WITH THE DEVIL?! YOU?!
"PRAYER BOY?!" 'MEMBER
I USED TO CALL YOU THAT?
PRAYER BOY...YOU WAS
ALWAYS PRAYING FOR
SOMETHING.

GUESS YOU
GOT TIRED A'
WAITING,
HUH?

HOW DO
YOU KNOW
THAT?



THANK
YOU, MR.
JANITOR.

WELL...I DON'T
REALLY *HAVE* AN
EXPLANATION FOR ANY A'
THIS SHIT THAT MAKES A GOD
DAMNED LICK A SENSE, BUT IF
I'M PUTTING THE PIECES
TOGETHER...IT WOULD APPEAR,
YOU SOLD YOUR SOUL FOR
THE POWER TO KILL
LITTLE OL' ME.

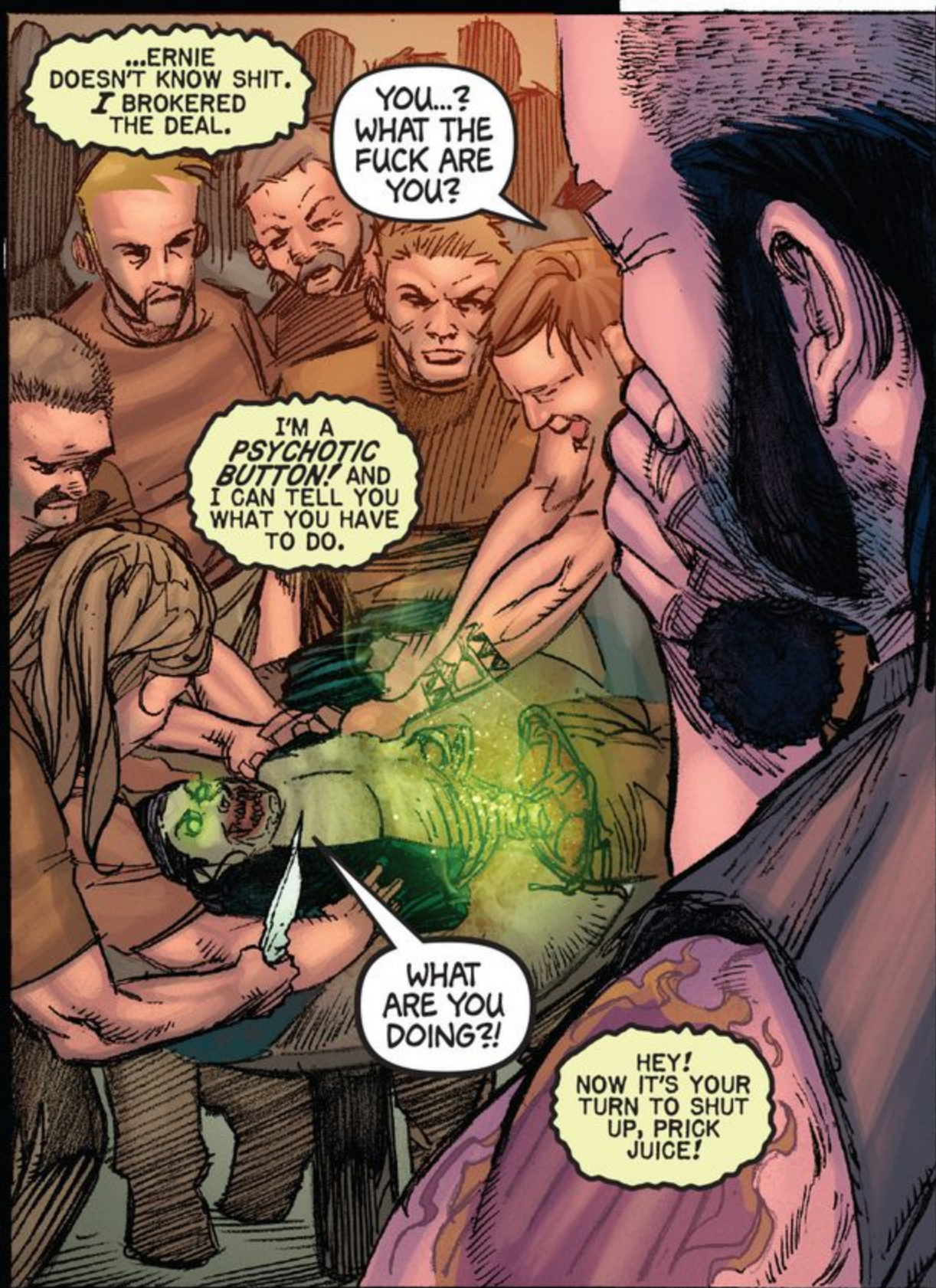
I'M
FLATTERED.
NO, REALLY
I AM.

BUT I'M
ALSO...











ANY LAST
WORDS?

AN ARM
LOST...IS A LESSON
LEARNED.

WHAT...?



HAH-HA
HAH-HA HAH-HA!

THERE'S
GOTTA BE AN
EASIER WAY
TO LEARN A
LESSON.









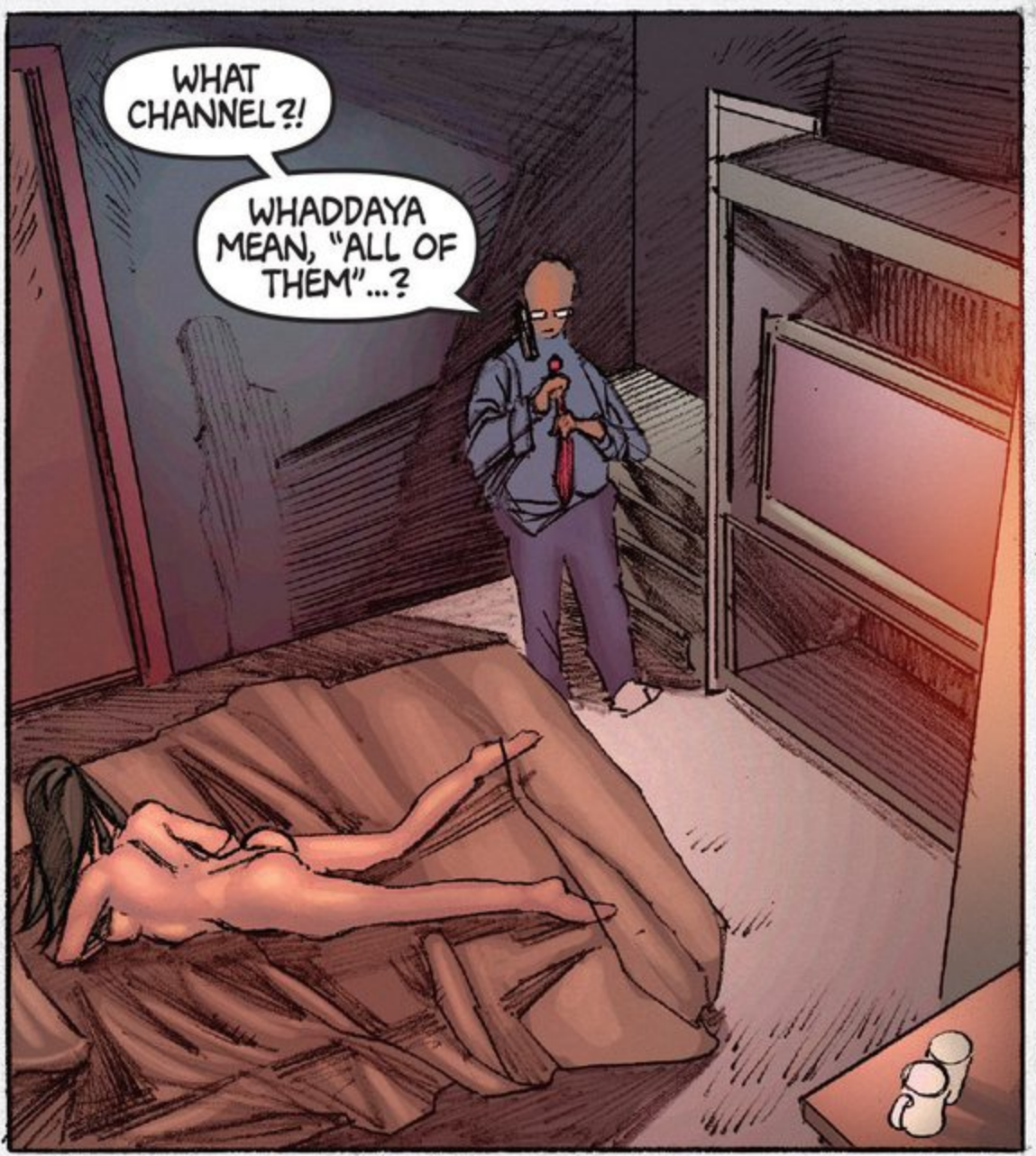


HOW MANY TIMES ARE YOU GONNA CALL ME...!



...I SAID, "I'M IN A MEETING!"

OH...FINE!



WHAT CHANNEL?!

WHADDAYA MEAN, "ALL OF THEM"...?



G-GET GENERAL RAMSEY ON THE PHONE... NOW!



GAKT--!



WELL...
SOMEBODY HAD
TO EAT A
HEART.



SpT00!





IS HE KIDDING?

GET OUTTA HERE, CHAPLAIN, MY FIGHT'S NOT WITH YOU.

IF YOU'RE MURDERING SINNERS ON LUCIFER'S BEHALF, THEN YOUR FIGHT IS INDEED WITH ME.

WELL, LA-DEE-DA.

I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU, BUT YOU NEED TO GET OUT OF MY WAY...*RIGHT NOW.*

THIS IS *NOT* YOUR DESTINY.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MY DESTINY?!

EVERYTHING.

I AM URIEL, THE ARCHANGEL.

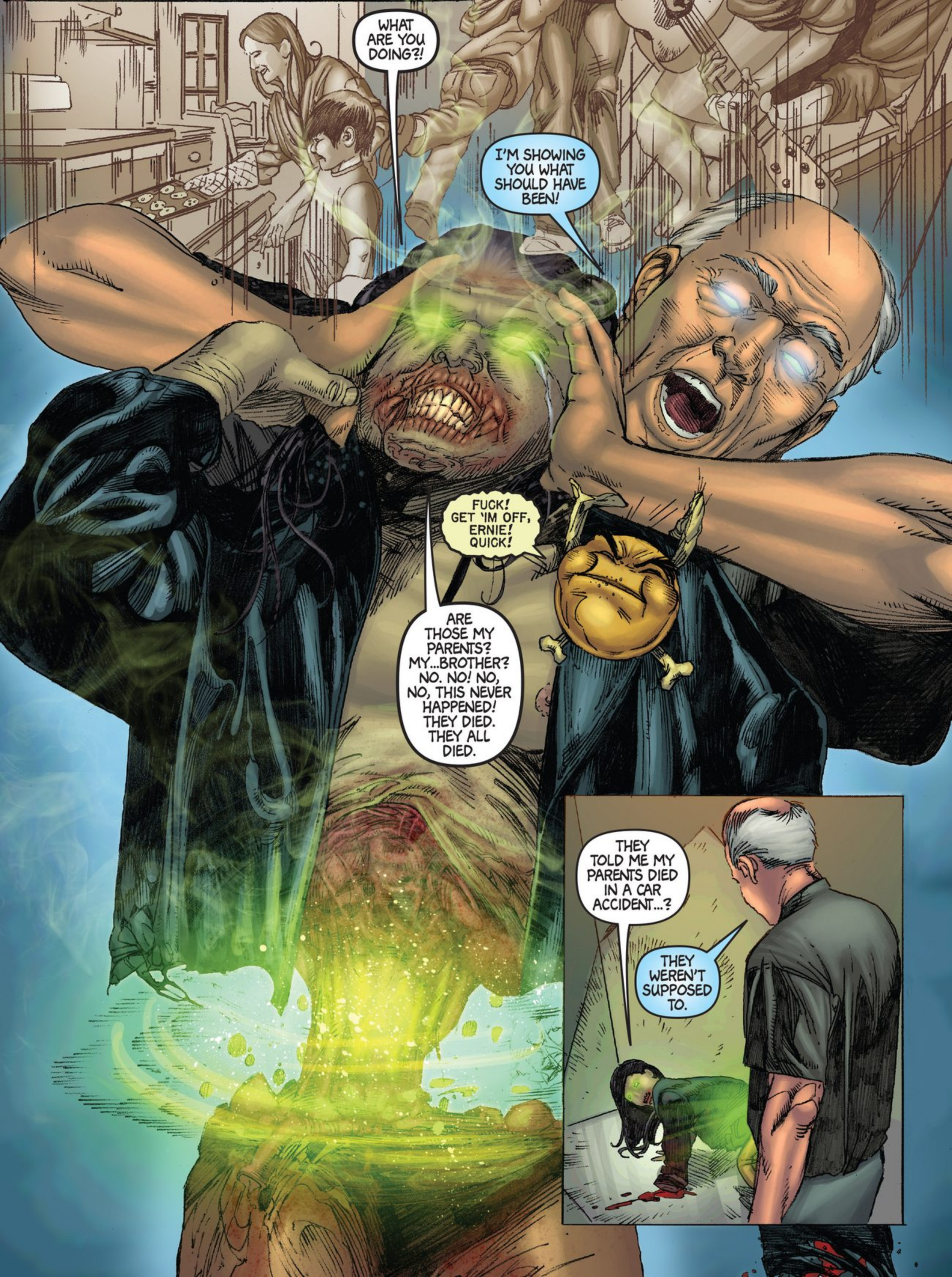
I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR LEADING MORTALS TOWARDS THEIR DESTINY.

HEH, HEH. RIGHT. WELL, IF THAT'S TRUE, YOU'VE DONE A BANG-UP JOB SO FAR.

NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'VE GOT A CUTE DOCTOR TO SAVE, A FOSTER FATHER TO KILL, AND THE DEVIL TO THANK FOR IT.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING?

MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE...KILLING ONE SINNER AT A TIME.





QUIT LISTENING TO THIS BOZO, WE GOTTA KEEP OUR EYES ON THE PRIZE! BUFORD'S GOT YOUR ARM, THANA, AND A *LOOOONG* HISTORY OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE! IF YA KNOW WHAT I MEAN?

SHUT UP, SMILEY.

ARE YOU REALLY AN ANGEL?

I AM THE ARCHANGEL URIEL.



ERNIE! LET'S MOVE!



SHUT UP FOR A SECOND!

WHAT WAS MY DESTINY SUPPOSED TO BE?



ERNEST FAIRCHILD WAS DESTINED TO BE HEAVEN'S GREATEST GENERAL IN ITS ETERNAL WAR AGAINST HELL, BUT YOU'VE BEEN CORRUPTED.

LA, LA, LA! COME ON, MAN, THIS GUY'S NUTS! YOU PRAYED EVERY DAY FOR SOME HELP FROM THE ALMIGHTY! THEY WEREN'T LISTENING THEN...



...AND THEY SURE AS HELL AIN'T LISTENIN--!

NOOOOOOOOWWWW!!

HE'S ANNOYING...BUT HE'S *RIGHT*. THIS DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE; I LED A GOOD LIFE, I PRAYED EVERY DAY FOR YEARS AND ALL I GOT WAS ABUSE.

NOW YOU SEE ME DOING SOMETHING YOU DON'T AGREE WITH AND RUSH IN TO STOP ME?



WHERE WERE YOU WHEN MY WHOLE FAMILY DIED?! WHEN BUFORD WAS BEATING THE SHIT OUT OF ME?! WHERE WERE YOU THEN?!

WHERE WERE YOU?!



MAYBE YOU'RE LIKE *JOB*?

JOB...? THE GUY WHO GOD SCREWED OVER, JUST TO SHOW SATAN HE COULD?

IF I'M LIKE JOB...THEN GOD CAN GO *FUCK HIMSELF*!



YOU DESERVE TO BE ANGRY.

I DON'T CLAIM TO UNDERSTAND ALL THAT'S HAPPENED HERE, BUT I *DO* KNOW YOU'RE WORKING *AGAINST* GOD'S PLAN.

MAYBE IF WE WORK *TOGETHER*...









Widmark maximum security prison.

5 YEARS AGO.

ARRGGGHHHH!

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN HAVING THESE DREAMS?

SINCE THEY MOVED ME.

IT'S NOT UNCOMMON FOR DEATH ROW INMATES TO HAVE BAD DREAMS ABOUT EACH OTHER.

EHM-UH... EH...

THEY'RE **NOT** DREAMS, CHAPLAIN...

AHH...

...THEY'RE **MEMORIES**.

HEH, HEH.

OF DEATH.

MEMORIES OF WHAT?

NOOO...

PLEASE!

WHAT'S DONE IS DONE; IT IS BEST NOT TO DWELL UPON THAT WHICH CANNOT BE CHANGED.

≡GASP!≡

I KNOW YOU THINK I'M **EVIL**...BUT I CAN'T BEAR THEIR SUFFERING.

ERNIE...THERE IS SO MUCH **BAD** IN THE BEST OF US, AND SO MUCH **GOOD** IN THE **WORST**. IT'S NOT MY PLACE TO THINK "EVIL" OF **ANYONE**. LEAST OF ALL YOU.



HE WAS ONE OF US!
ONE OF THE **GOOD GUYS!**



HE WAS A **RAVING LUNATIC** AND HE WAS STANDING IN THE WAY OF OUR DEAL!





I WON'T
BE YOUR FRIEND
ANYMORE.



LOOK...I WAS
PROTECTING YOU FROM THAT YAHOO.
YOU HEARD HIM, TALKING ALL THAT
"GOD'S PLAN" NONSENSE. I MEAN,
HOW DOES US MAKING THE WORLD A
BETTER PLACE AFFECT GOD IN
ANY WAY?

I DON'T
KNOW, BUT IF
YOU HADN'T
KILLED HIM, I
MIGHT HAVE
FOUND
OUT!

YOU DON'T
KNOW, 'CAUSE
IT DOESN'T
MAKE ANY
SENSE! "GOD'S
PLAN?"



FUCK GOD'S PLAN!
SINCE WHEN HAS HE DONE
ANYTHING FOR US, ANYWAY?
WE GOTTA STICK TO *OUR*
PLAN, PAL...FOR YOUR
OWN GOOD.



I AIN'T MAKING
ANY PROMISES ABOUT WHO I
WILL OR WON'T KILL. IF I THINK
SOMEBODY'S DOING YOU WRONG,
THEY'RE *DEAD*. THAT'S ALL
THERE IS TO IT.

...



WHAT AM I
GONNA DO ABOUT
MY ARM?





DEATH
ROW

WHAT THE
HELL'S GOING
ON OUT
THER--?!

BLAM BLAM BLAM



FIND
ME A MEDICAL
KIT!



YOU SWORE
YOU WOULDN'T
KILL THEM!



YEAH, I
DID...
...YOU SHOULD
REMEMBER THAT
NEXT TIME.



WELL, WHAT
DO WE HAVE
HERE...?



ATTENTION,
S-MART
SHOPPERS!





DO IT!
JUST...
DO IT
ALREADY!



AHHH!

BLAM



DON'T WORRY,
DOC; ALL PLACES
ARE THE SAME
DISTANCE FROM
HEAVEN.

YOU'LL BE
THERE SOON...BUT
YOUR BOYFRIEND'S
GOING
ELSEWHERE.



HE IS
NOT MY FUCKING
BOYFRIEND!



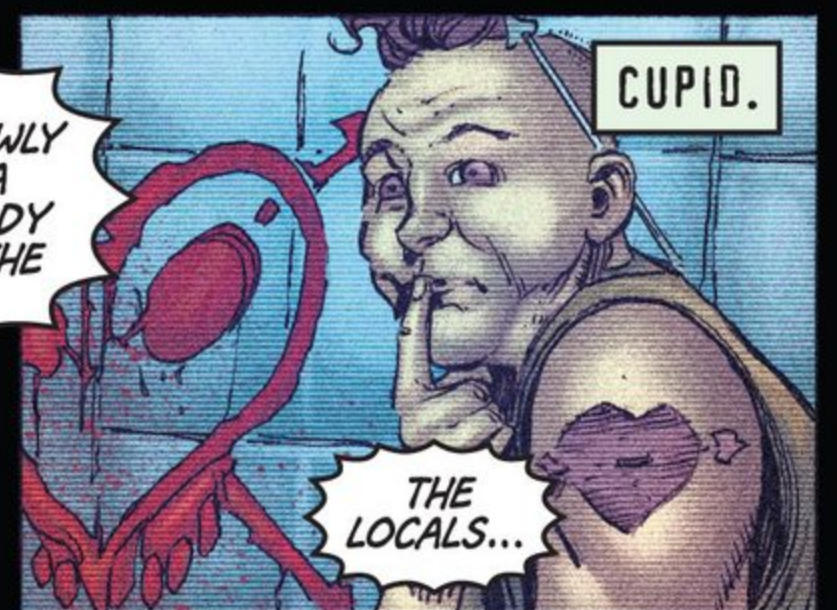
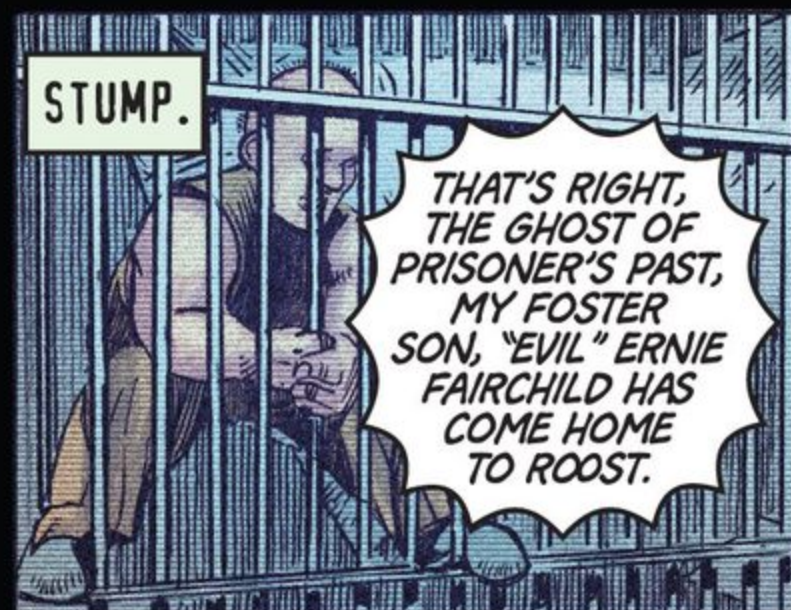
HE'S
JUST A
KID.

SOB

JUST
A...STUPID
KID.

YES,
HE IS.

NOW
FIND ME THAT
GODDAMN
MEDICAL
KIT!



BZZZZT

HEAR THAT?

SOMEONE JUST OPENED ALL THE CELLS ON DEATH ROW.

I'LL GIVE YA ONE GUESS WHO.

AHRN--!

YOU ALL RIGHT?

ARRRGH!

WHAT IS IT?!

ERRRNN...!

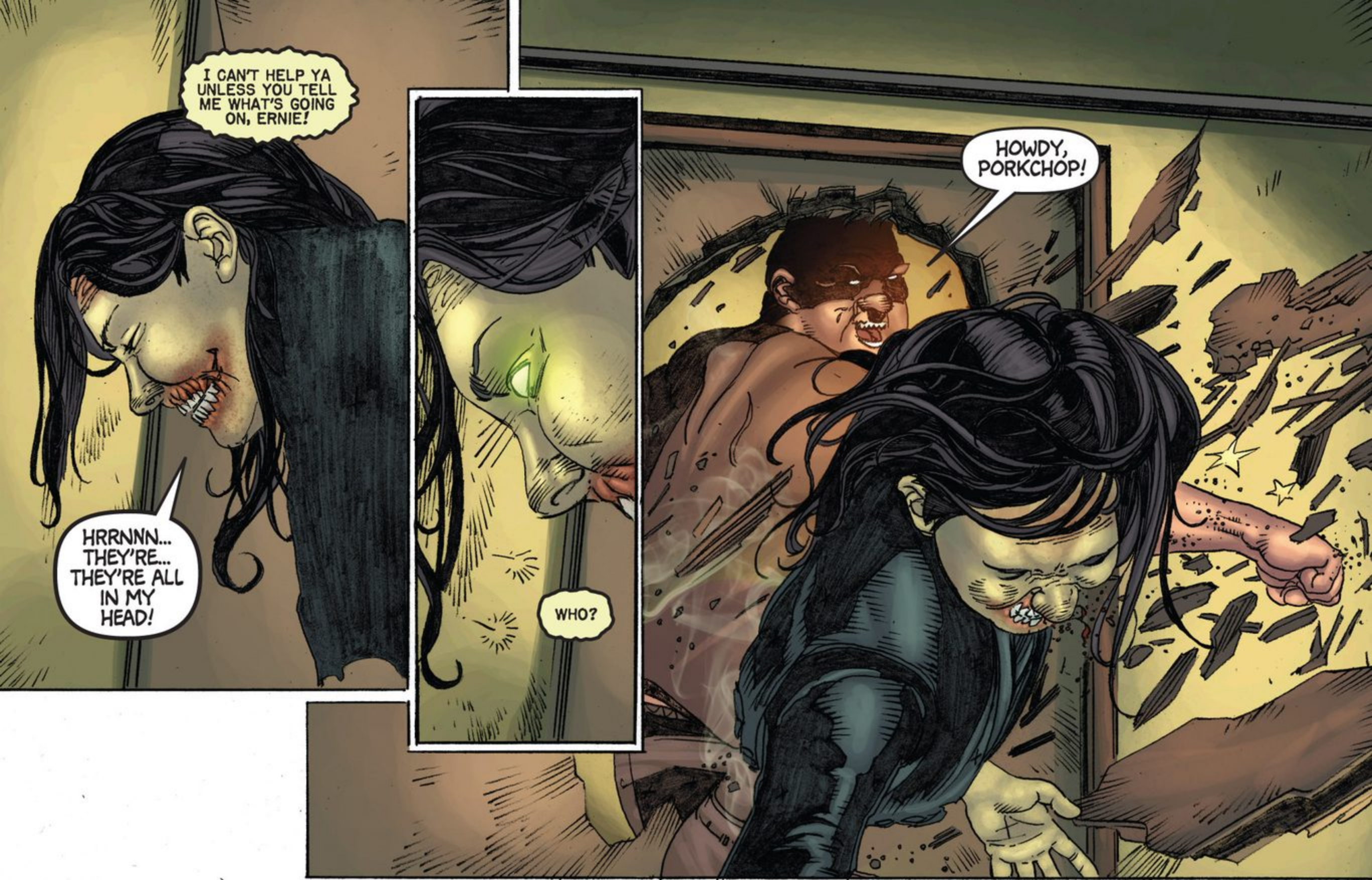
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?

I'M OKAY! I'M OKAY...

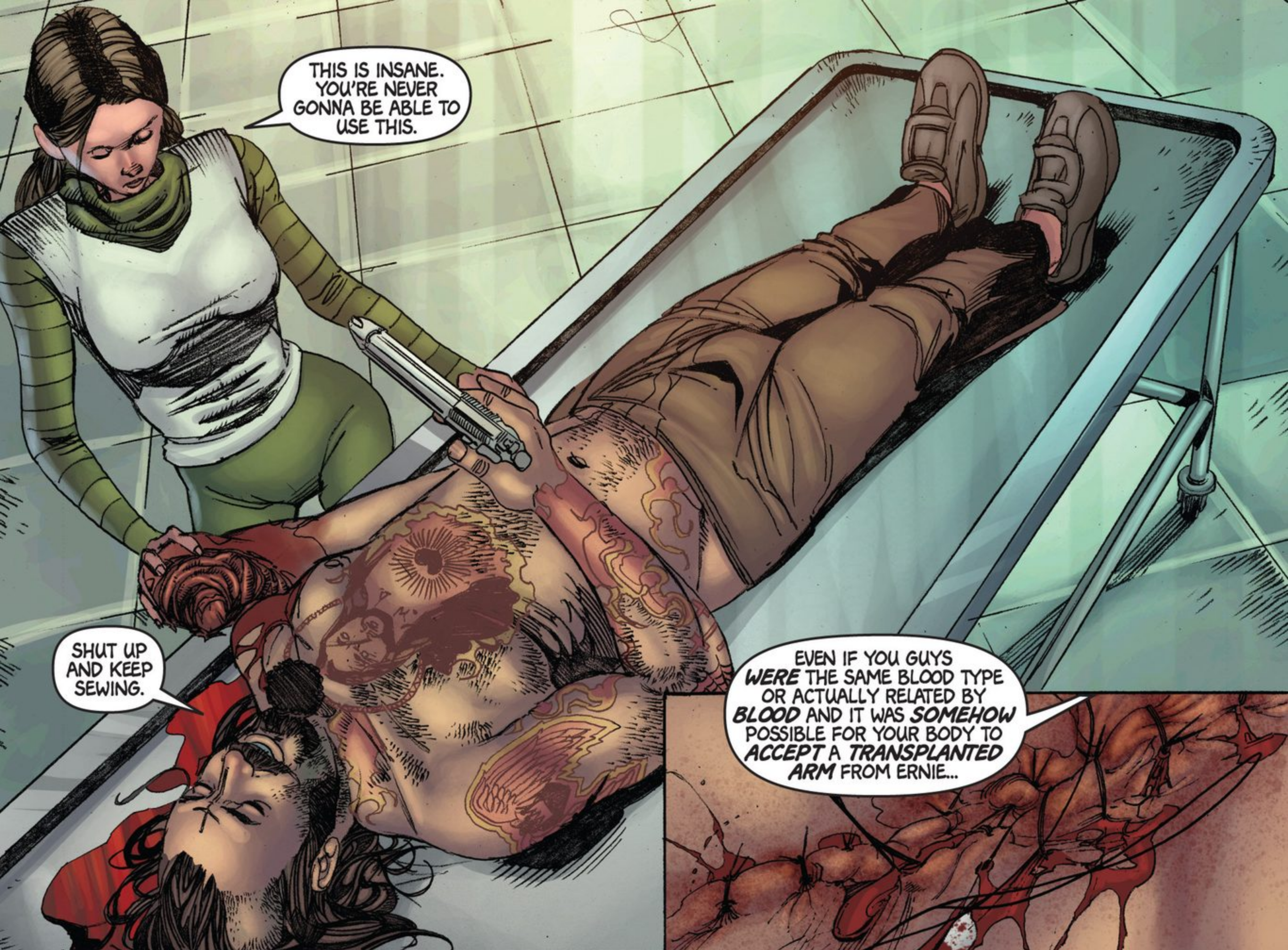
≡GASP≡

LET'S GO.





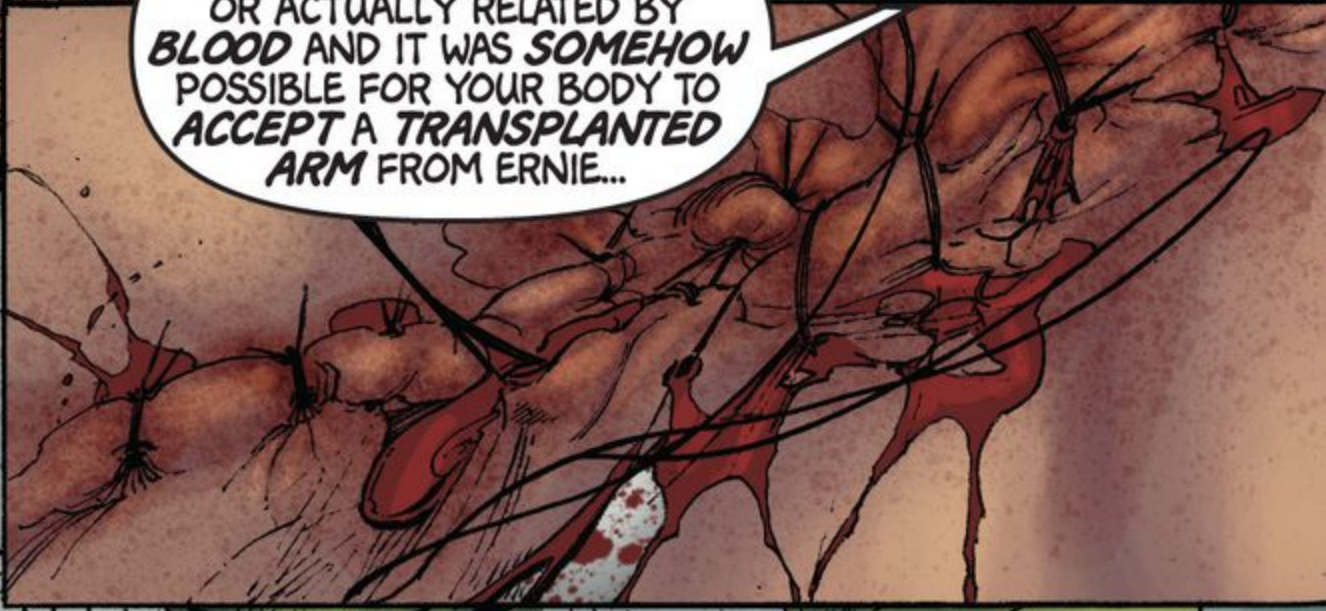




THIS IS INSANE.
YOU'RE NEVER
GONNA BE ABLE TO
USE THIS.

SHUT UP
AND KEEP
SEWING.

EVEN IF YOU GUYS
WERE THE SAME BLOOD TYPE
OR ACTUALLY RELATED BY
BLOOD AND IT WAS **SOMEHOW**
POSSIBLE FOR YOUR BODY TO
ACCEPT A **TRANSPLANTED**
ARM FROM ERNIE...



YOU'RE
ON MY LAST
NERVE,
DOC.

...IT WOULD **STILL**
TAKE **MONTHS** OF
PHYSICAL THERAPY
BEFORE YOU COULD
EVEN **THINK** ABOUT
ACTUALLY--



WHAT? WHAT
HAPPENED?!

...IT
MOVED.



YOU KNOW, DOC,
PEOPLE WHO **THINK** THEY
KNOW EVERYTHING ARE VERY
IRRITATING TO THOSE OF
US WHO **DO**.



WHO WANTS A PIECE?!

I DO!



MOVE OVER...I'M DRIVING!



THAT NEVER GETS OLD.

REMEMBER HOW WE USED TO HAVE NICKNAMES FOR ALL THESE ASSHOLES, WHAT'D WE CALL THIS ONE AGAIN? VEAL?!

SMILEY...?!

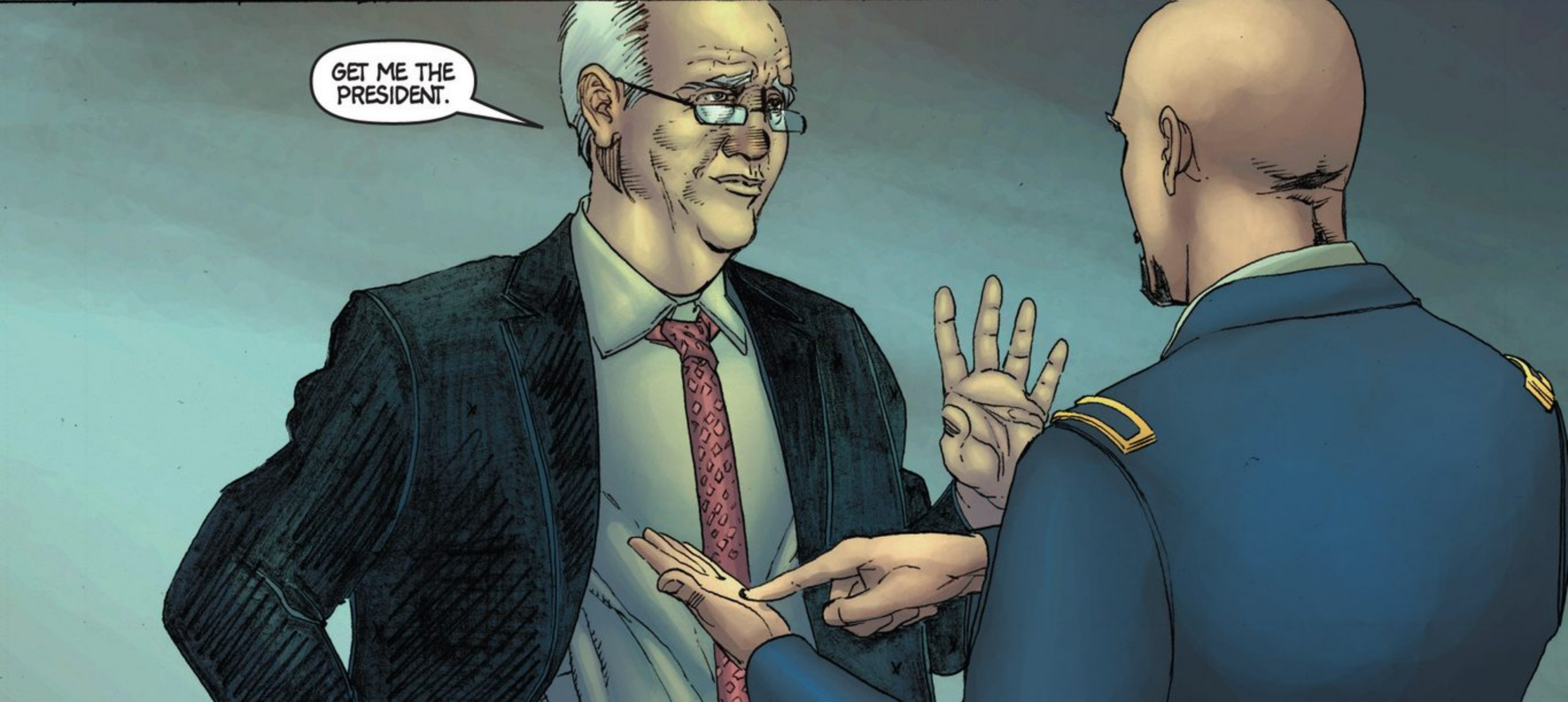
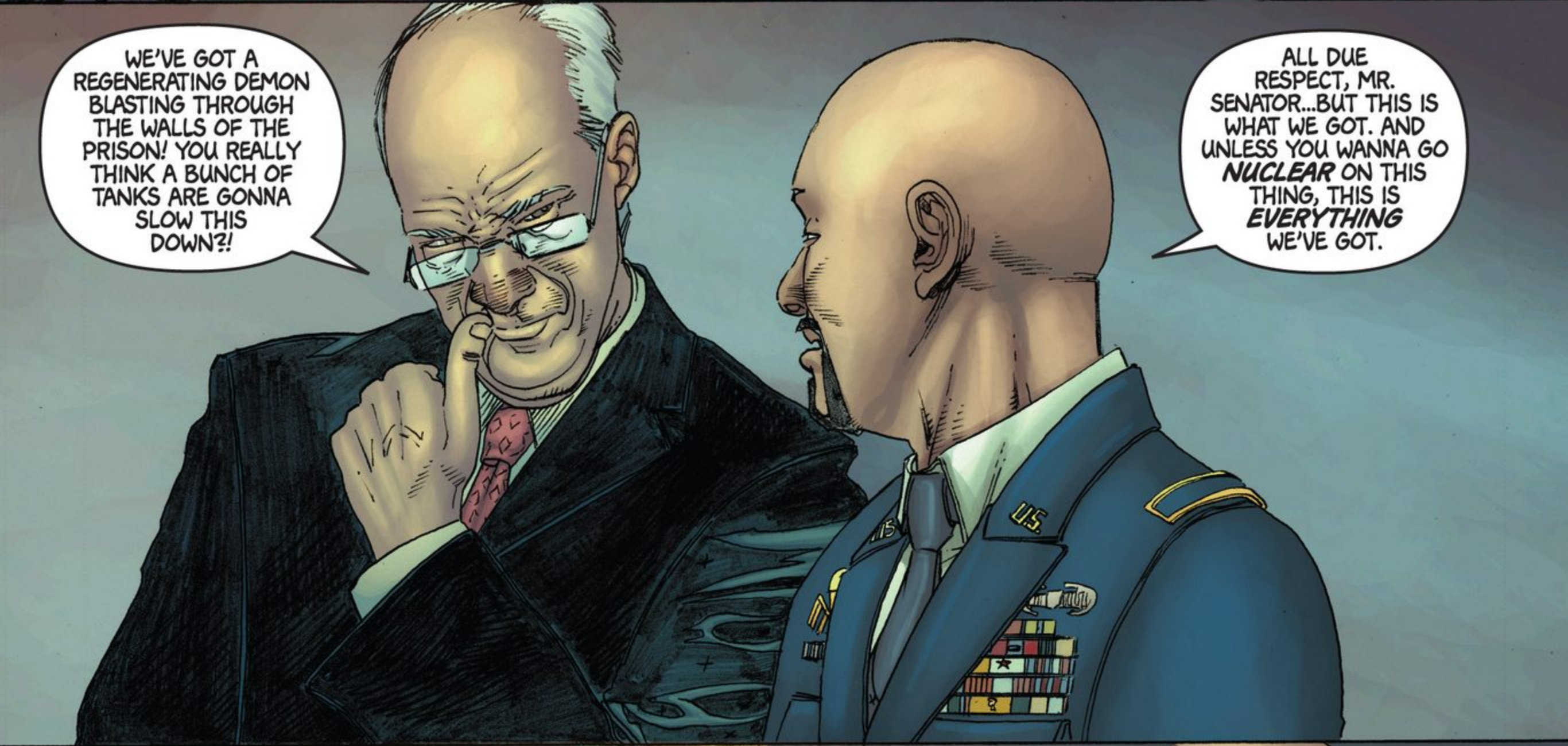
YEAH... YOU WANNA TEAM UP?



NOW, THE THING TO REMEMBER HERE IS, THESE PEOPLE USED TO SCARE YOU BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE POWER TO STOP THEM. NOW YOU DO.

YOU'RE NOT A KID ANYMORE, ERNIE. YOU'RE YOUR OWN KIND OF MONSTER.









SMILEY...?



WHAT'S
HAPPENING
TO ME?
SMILEY?!



NO! NO!
IT'S NOT
OVER!

I'M
AFRAID IT
IS.



YOU JUST
WEREN'T BUILT
FOR THIS,
SON.

THERE'S TOO MUCH
GOOD IN YOU TO WIELD
SUCH BLASPHEMOUS
POWER.

WITHOUT THAT EVIL
LITTLE SHREW...YOUR
LINK TO HELL IS
SEVERED.

MAC...?

NO. IT IS I,
URIEL.

I'M SORRY FOR
YOUR FRIEND, BUT
WITH HIM AROUND, I
KNEW WE'D NEVER
HAVE A CHANCE TO
TALK.

NOW...MAYBE
WE CAN **START** TO
FIGURE ALL OF THIS
OUT...



LOSE
SOMETHING?



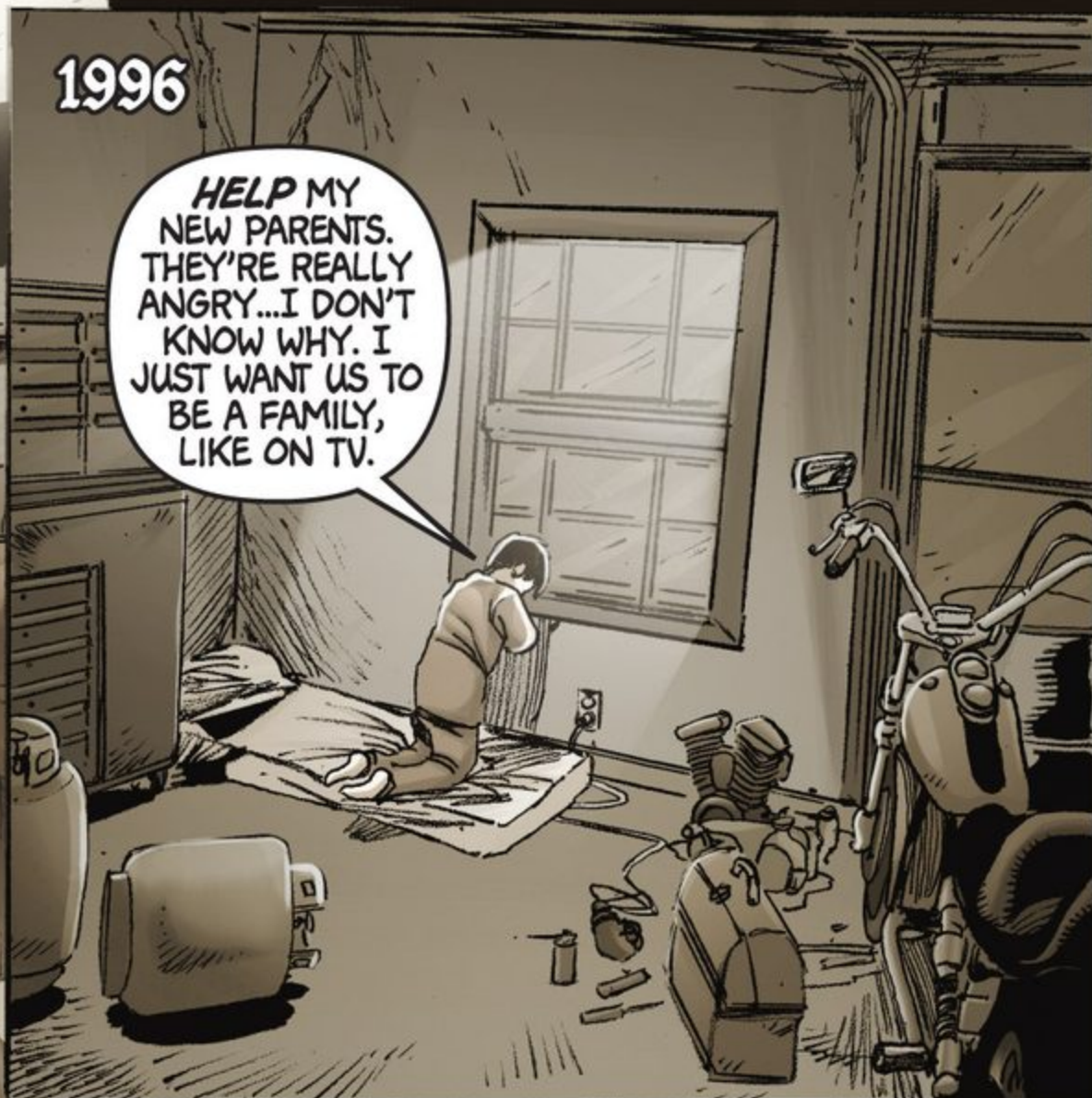




GOD...

1996

HELP MY NEW PARENTS. THEY'RE REALLY ANGRY...I DON'T KNOW WHY. I JUST WANT US TO BE A FAMILY, LIKE ON TV.



1998

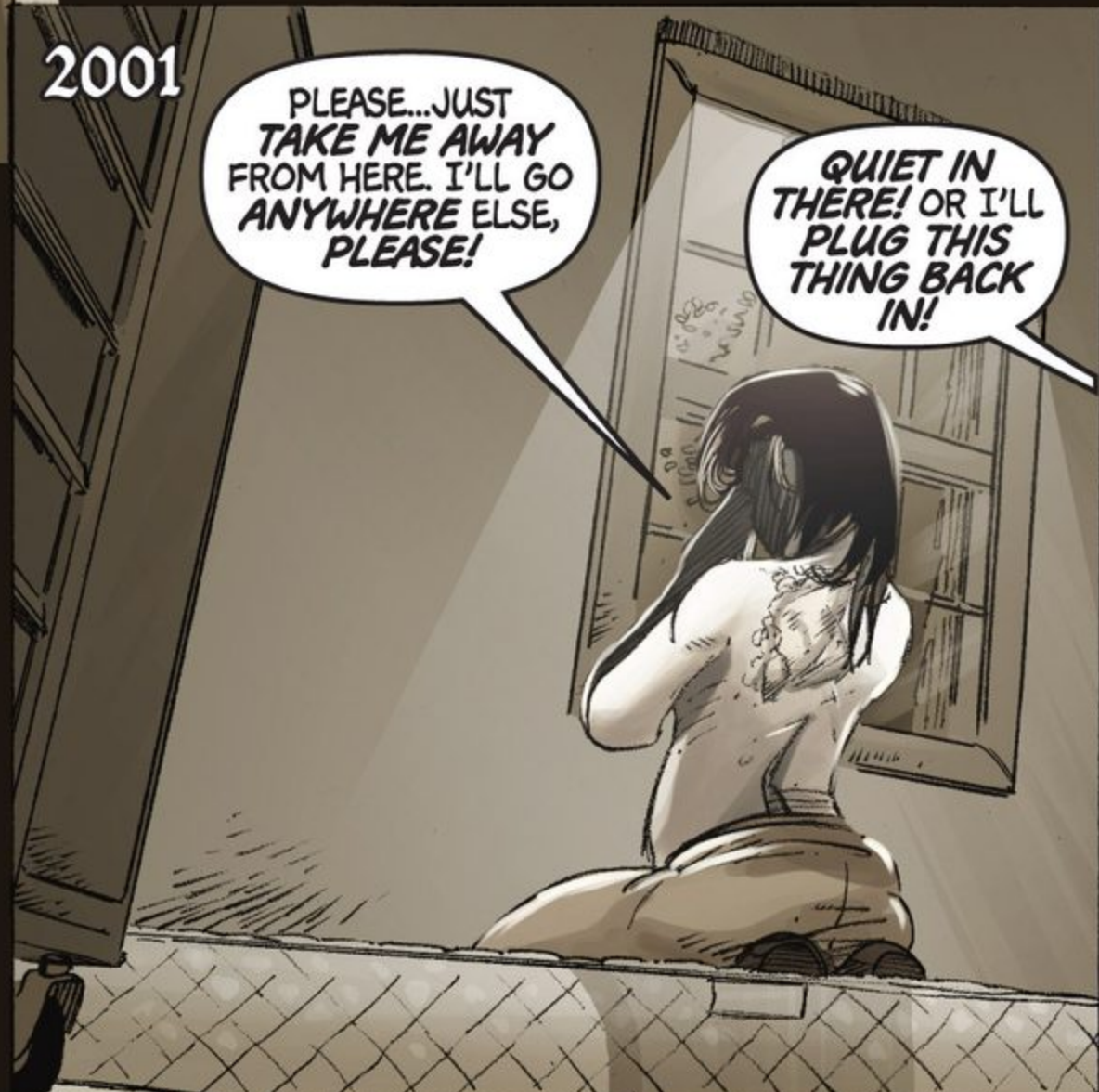
YOU HAVE TO **SAVE** THEM. YOU HAVE TO **SHOW** THEM THAT WHAT THEY'RE DOING IS WRONG.



2001

PLEASE...JUST **TAKE ME AWAY** FROM HERE. I'LL GO **ANYWHERE ELSE, PLEASE!**

QUIET IN THERE! OR I'LL **PLUG THIS THING BACK IN!**



2003

YOU HAVE TO **PUNISH** THESE PEOPLE. THEY HAVE NO REGARD FOR **YOU...FOR ME...FOR ANYONE!** THEY'LL **NEVER** SEE THE LIGHT UNLESS YOU **MAKE** THEM SEE IT.

YOU NEED TO **DO** SOMETHING.

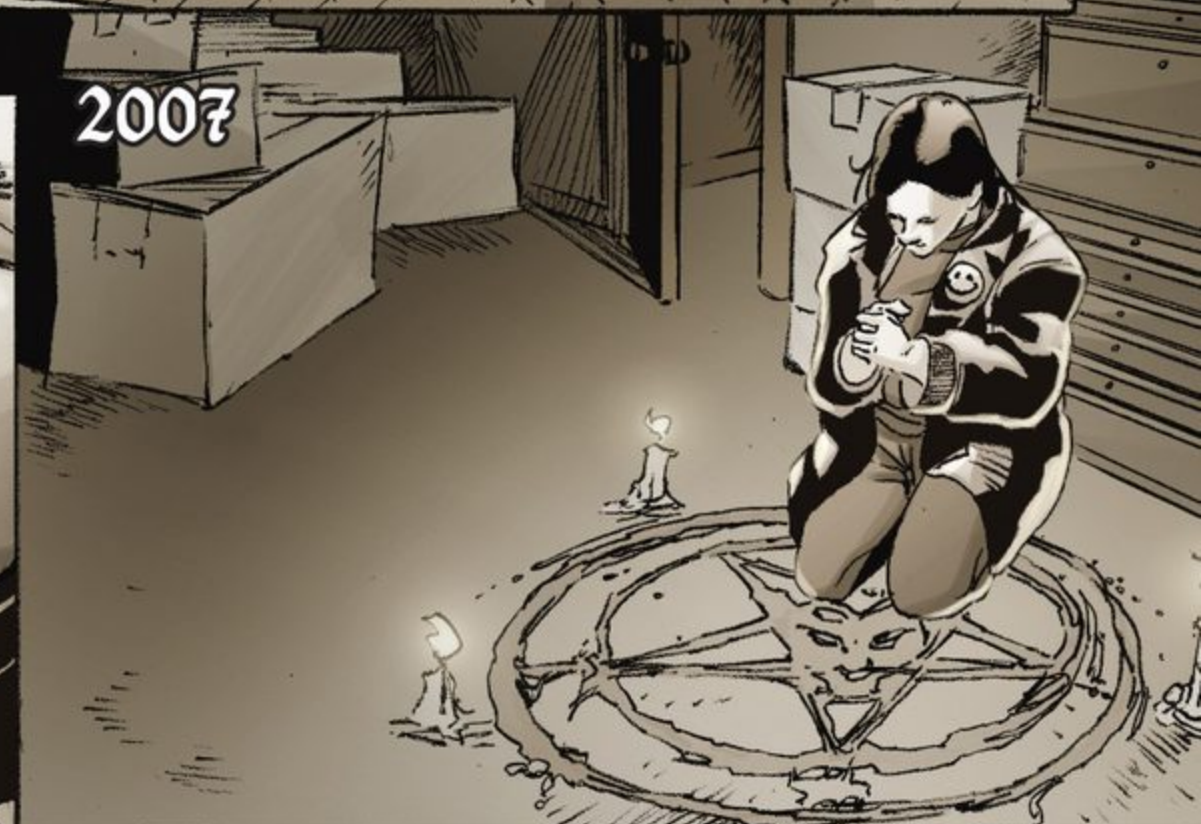


2005

I KNOW **NOW** THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO HANDLE EVERY BAD SITUATION YOURSELF. BUT IF YOU COULD JUST GIVE **ME** THE **POWER** TO DO **SOMETHING...** I JUST NEED A **LITTLE** HELP...



2007



LUCIFER...



now.

BUFORD...
PLEASE.

THEY DIDN'T
DO ANYTHING.
THEY HAVE
NOTHING TO DO
WITH THIS.

THEY DON'T
HAVE TO DIE...
JUST KILL
ME.

AFTER ALL
THAT?!

YOU CAME
BACK FROM
THE DEAD TO
KILL ME!

AND NOW,
WHAT? YOU'RE
JUST GONNA
THROW YOUR
REVENGE
AWAY?

FOR THESE
ASSHOLES?!

CAN'T LET
YOU DO THAT,
SON.





NO!



SWOOOSH



PLEASE!
STOP!

WHO GIVES
A SHIT ABOUT
THEM? IT'S ME
YOU WANT,
RIGHT?



AAAAAAHHHHHHH!



MAN, I DID A
NUMBER ON YOU,
HUH?

NOT SURE
IF I SHOULD BE
ASHAMED...

...OR
PROUD!

SWOOSH

EHN...!

HEY,
ERNIE...?

WANNA
WATCH YOUR
GIRLFRIEND
DIE?



SWOOSH

SHIT, I
COULDN'T A
PLANNED
THAT.
YOU'RE
MAKING
THIS TOO
EASY,
SON.





ALL
RIGHT...
SO FOR
THE SAKE OF
ARGUMENT, LET'S SAY
THAT LITTLE STUNT
DID SAVE YOUR
GIRLFRIEND.

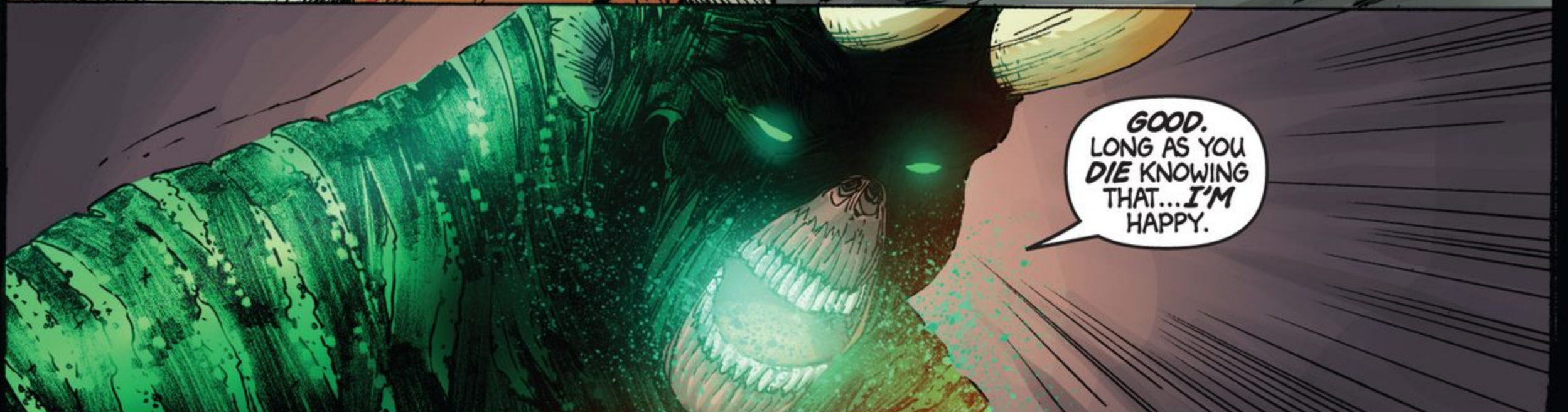
AND THEN
YOU *SOMEHOW*
MANAGED TO GET
THE DROP ON *ME*,
FINALLY OBTAINING
THE REVENGE YOU
SO RIGHTEOUSLY
DESERVE.

IS IT
WORTH
IT?

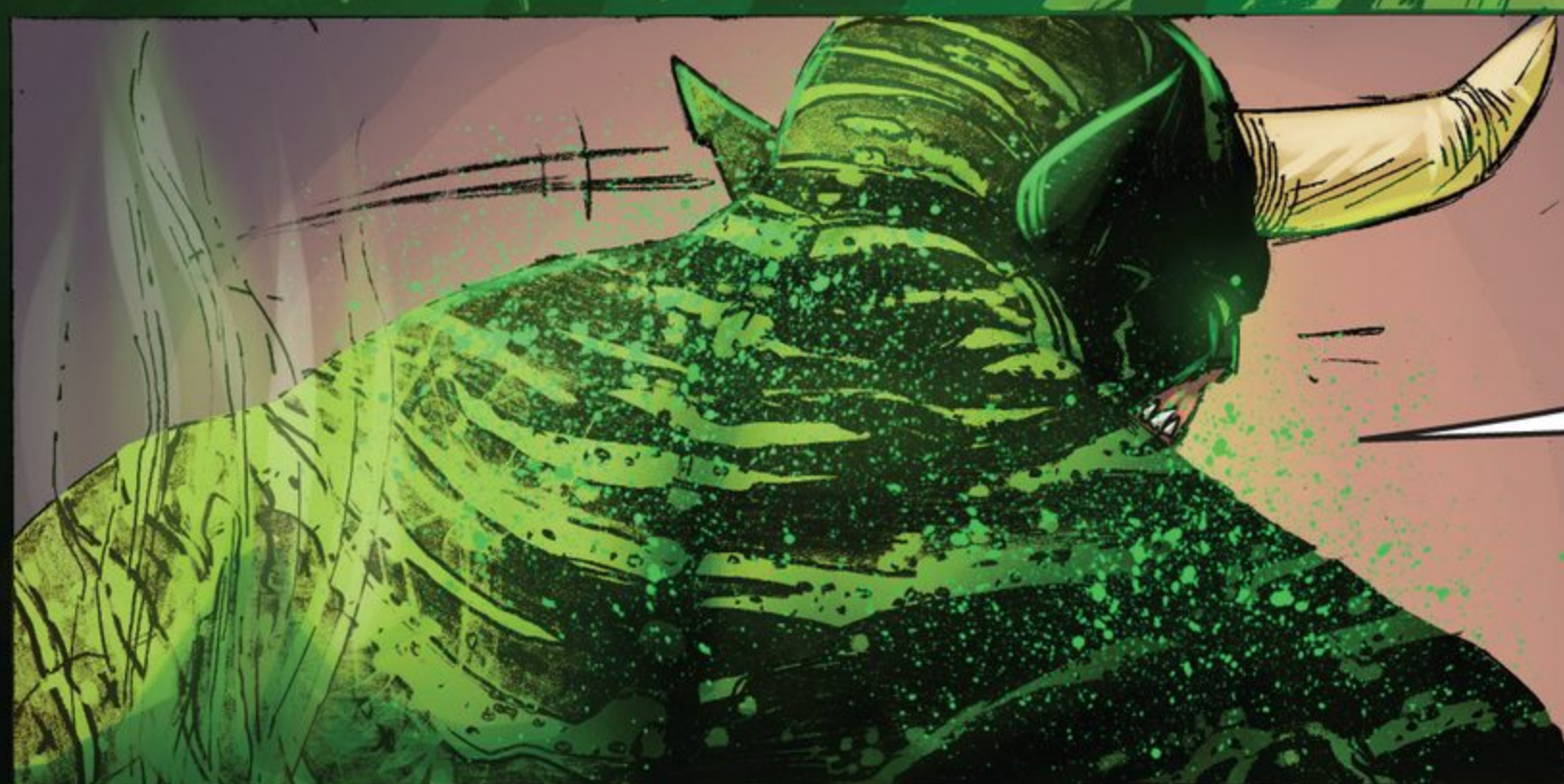
WHAT I MEAN
TO SAY IS, WAS YOUR
REVENGE ON *ME* WORTH
ALL OF THE *FRAGILE*,
INNOCENT LIVES LOST
TODAY...?



NO.



GOOD.
LONG AS YOU
DIE KNOWING
THAT...*I'M*
HAPPY.



HE
ALWAYS *WAS*
STUPID.
NOW
THEN...LET'S
BURN THIS
MUTHA
DOWN!



MR. PRESIDENT, WE
NEED TO **NUKE** THIS
BASTARD!

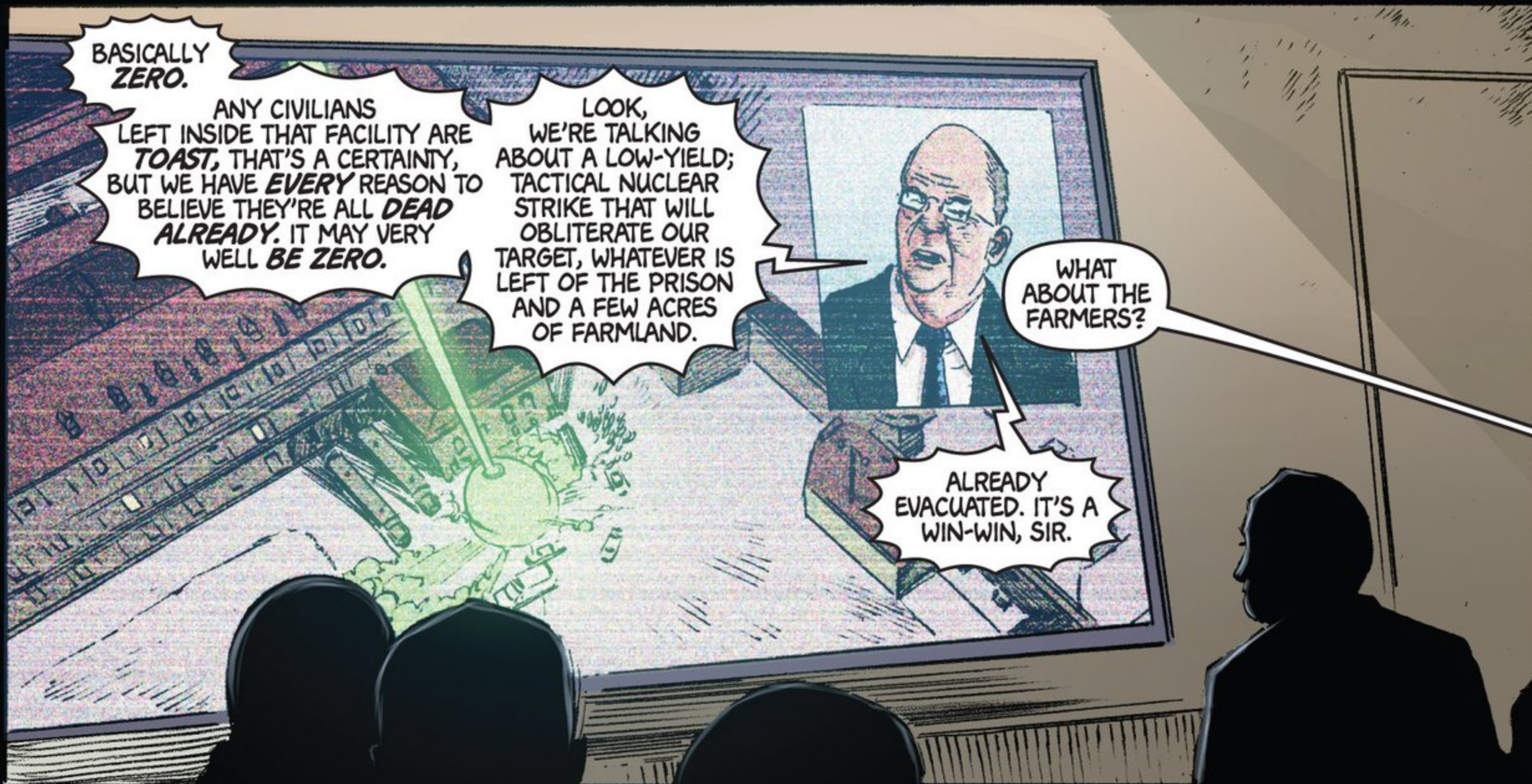


I DON'T THINK I'M COMFORTABLE
WITH THAT COURSE OF ACTION. I
MEAN, HOW MANY MEGADEATHS ARE
WE TALKING ABOUT HERE?

NO, NO, NO, MR.
PRESIDENT. I CAN
PROMISE YOU **ZERO**
MEGADEATHS.

WE AIN'T
MEASURING THIS
IN **MILLIONS**, I
CAN PROMISE
YOU THAT.

OKAY, SO
WHAT KIND OF
COLLATERAL
DAMAGE **ARE** WE
LOOKING AT?



BASICALLY
ZERO.

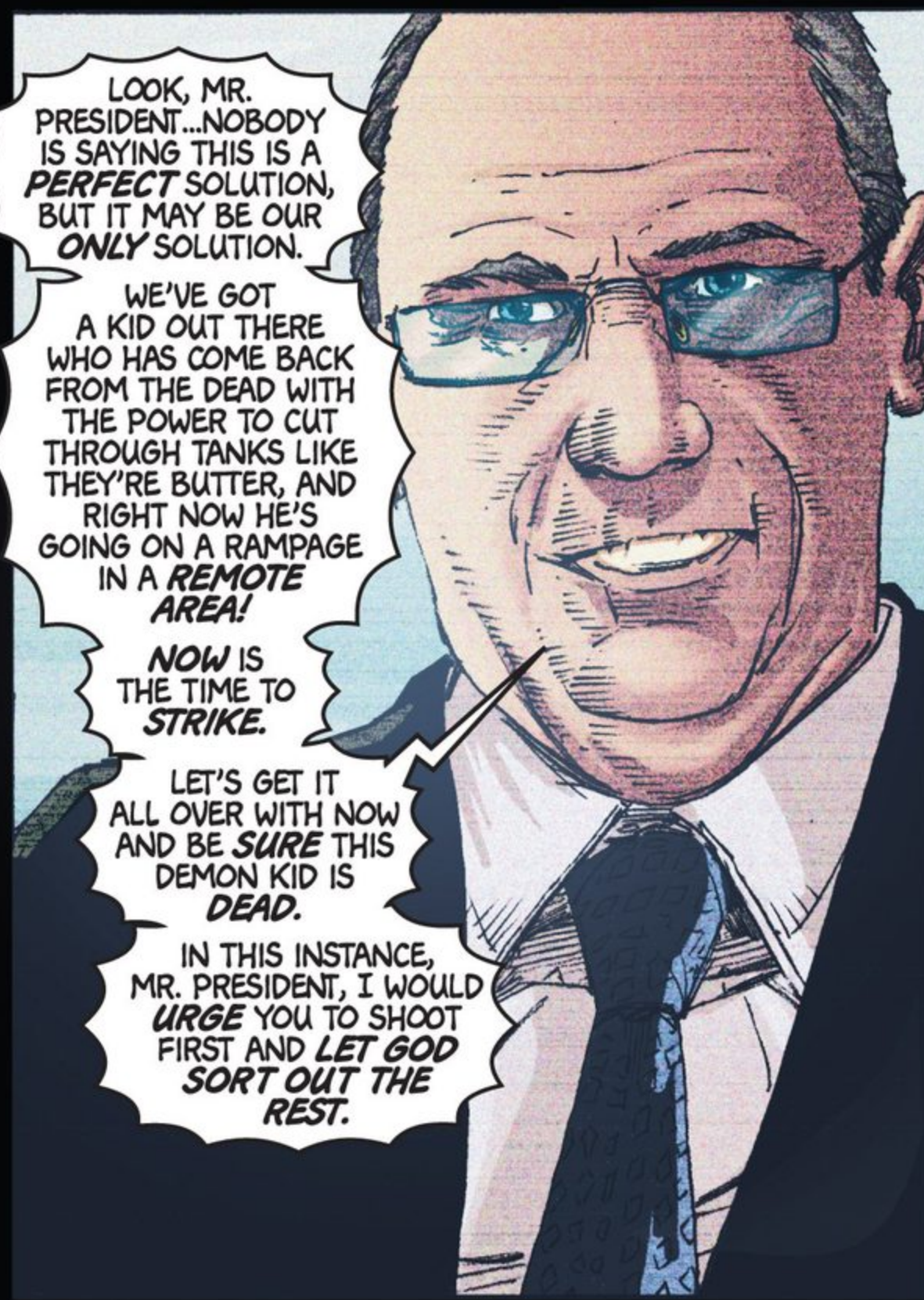
ANY CIVILIANS
LEFT INSIDE THAT FACILITY ARE
TOAST, THAT'S A CERTAINTY,
BUT WE HAVE **EVERY** REASON TO
BELIEVE THEY'RE ALL **DEAD**
ALREADY. IT MAY VERY
WELL **BE ZERO**.

LOOK,
WE'RE TALKING
ABOUT A LOW-YIELD;
TACTICAL NUCLEAR
STRIKE THAT WILL
OBLITERATE OUR
TARGET, WHATEVER IS
LEFT OF THE PRISON
AND A FEW ACRES
OF FARMLAND.



WHAT
ABOUT THE
FARMERS?

ALREADY
EVACUATED. IT'S A
WIN-WIN, SIR.



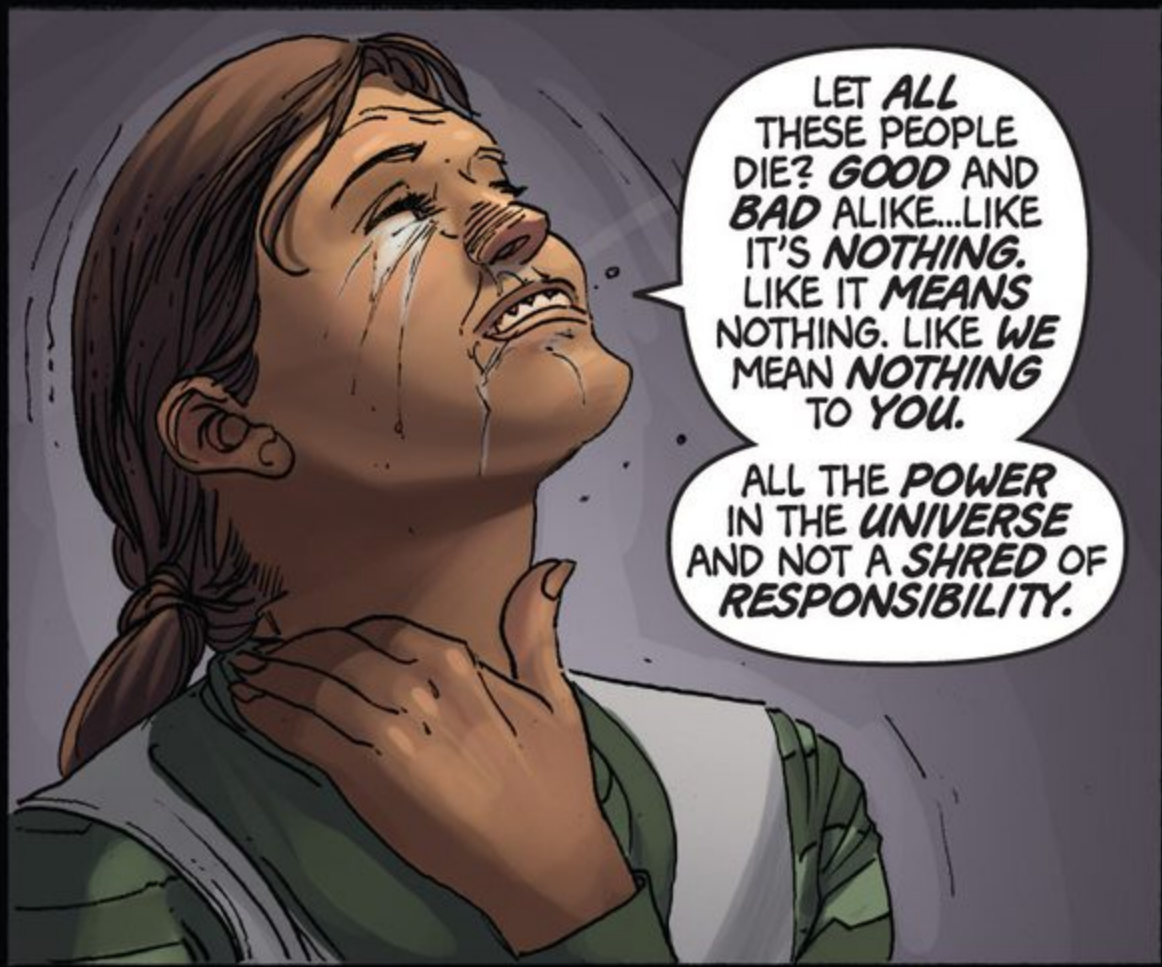




HOW
COULD
YOU?



HOW
COULD
YOU **LET** THIS
HAPPEN?



LET **ALL**
THESE PEOPLE
DIE? **GOOD** AND
BAD ALIKE...LIKE
IT'S **NOTHING**.
LIKE IT **MEANS**
NOTHING. LIKE **WE**
MEAN **NOTHING**
TO YOU.

ALL THE **POWER**
IN THE **UNIVERSE**
AND NOT A **SHRED** OF
RESPONSIBILITY.



THIS HAPPENED...
EVERYTHING
HAPPENS...BECAUSE YOU
LET IT HAPPEN.
BECAUSE
YOU **DON'T**
CARE.



ERNIE CARED. **ERNIE BELIEVED**.
HE BELIEVED IN **YOU**. HE **PRAYED**
FOR **YOUR** HELP. LIKE SO
MANY OF US DO.

YOU COULD
HAVE **SAVED** HIM.
ALL THOSE YEARS
AGO, YOU COULD
HAVE SAVED HIM.

YOU COULD
HAVE SAVED
US **ALL**.



I ALWAYS BELIEVED IF I WAS
GOOD ENOUGH, YOU'D
WATCH OVER ME.

BUT THAT'S
NOT TRUE, IS
IT?
YOU DON'T WATCH
OVER **ANYONE**.

THERE'S NO
SUCH THING AS A
MIRACLE. ONLY
LUCK.

DAMN
YOU FOR
THAT.



DAMN YOU
FOR **EVERYONE**
WHO HAS EVER
SUFFERED UNDER
YOUR **WATCHFUL**
EYE!

DAMN
YOU TO
HELL!



BOY
HOWDY!
YOU TELL
'IM, DOC!



YOU KNOW
WHAT MY PAPPY
ALWAYS SAID?

"TRUST IN GOD...
BUT **DON'T** LEAVE
YOUR **KEYS** IN THE
IGNITION."

YEAH. YOU
KNOW WHAT I
TOOK FROM
THAT?



DON'T
TRUST IN
GOD.

AM I **RIGHT**?
'CAUSE WHAT'S THE
DIFFERENCE?



YOU
KNOW,
WHAT?

≡SLURP!≡
I'VE
DECIDED I
LIKE YA.



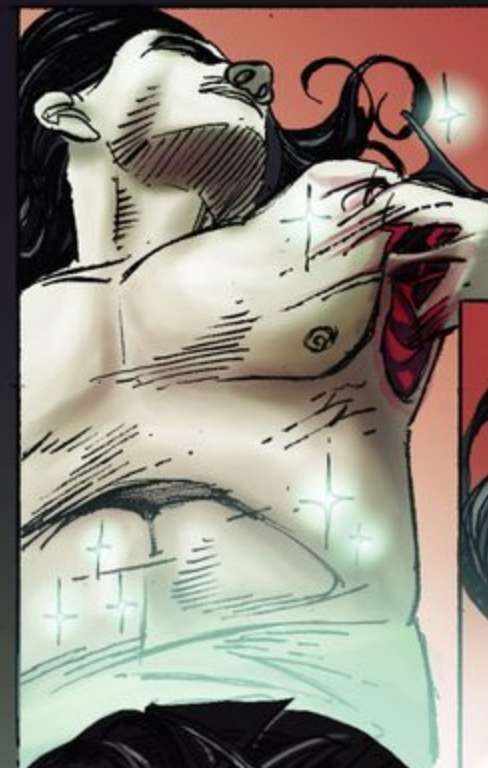
COME ON, BABE, I
GOT A WHOLE PRISON
TO DESTROY AND
SOMETHING TELLS ME,
WHEN I'M DONE...I'M
GONE BE FEELING A
BIT **AMOROUS**.



YOU KNOW
WHAT **AMOROUS**
MEANS? COURSE
YOU DO, YOU'RE A
DOCTOR! I'M A BIT
LOQUACIOUS
MYSELF.



I GOT THAT
TOILET PAPER
ONCE...WITH THE
WORDS ON IT? WIPED
MY ASS WITH THE
WHOLE DANG
LANGUAGE. FELT
GOOD.



WHAT THE
FUCK JUST
HAPPENED?!

I DON'T
KNOW. BUT
I FEEL
GREAT.

EVEN
BETTER
THAN I DID
BEFORE.

IN
FACT...



...I FEEL
DEAD
PEOPLE.





PUT
HER DOWN,
BUFORD!

ERNIE...?



BACK
FROM THE
DEAD,
AGAIN!

WHY AM I NOT
SURPRISED?

I SAID,
**PUT HER
DOWN!**

I HEARD
YOU...ALL
SELF-RIGHTEOUS.
LIKE YOU'RE
BETTER THAN
ME!

WELL, I GOT
NEWS FOR YOU,
"ERNEST," YOU
AIN'T BETTER
THAN ME.



YOU
ARE. A **MASS...**
MURDERER!

YOU'RE
NOT A **HERO...**
YOU'RE A
VILLAIN, JUST
LIKE ME!



A **SINGLE**
MURDER
MAKES A
VILLAIN...



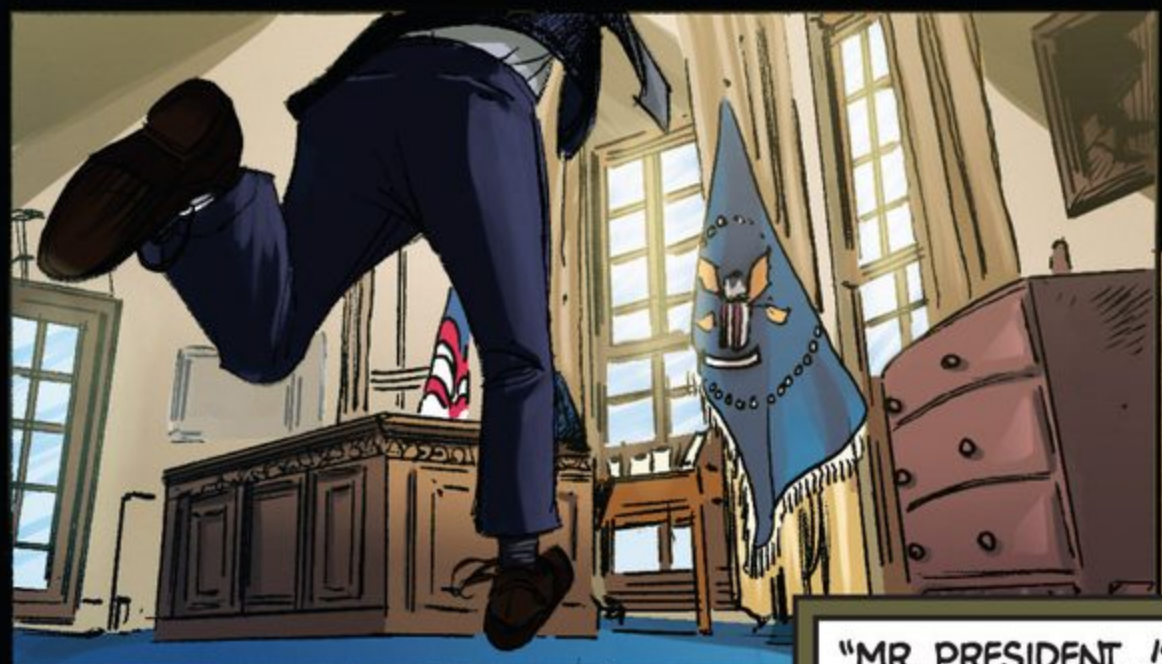
WHAT...
THE...
FUCK...?!



...MILLIONS
MAKE
HEROES.

ALL
RIGHT...FUCK
THIS HOSTAGE
BULLSHIT.

LET'S END
THIS.
BRING IT ON,
HERO.

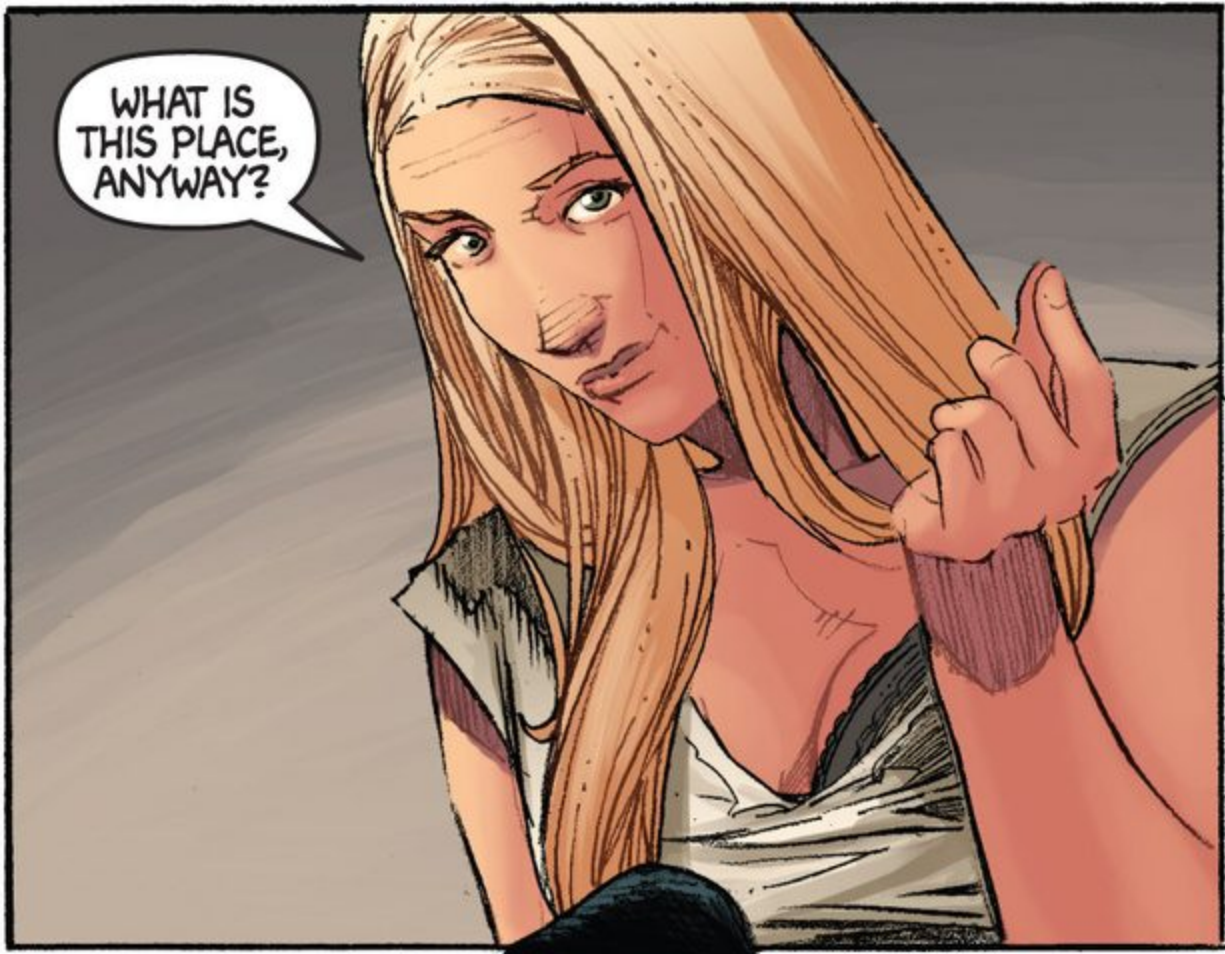
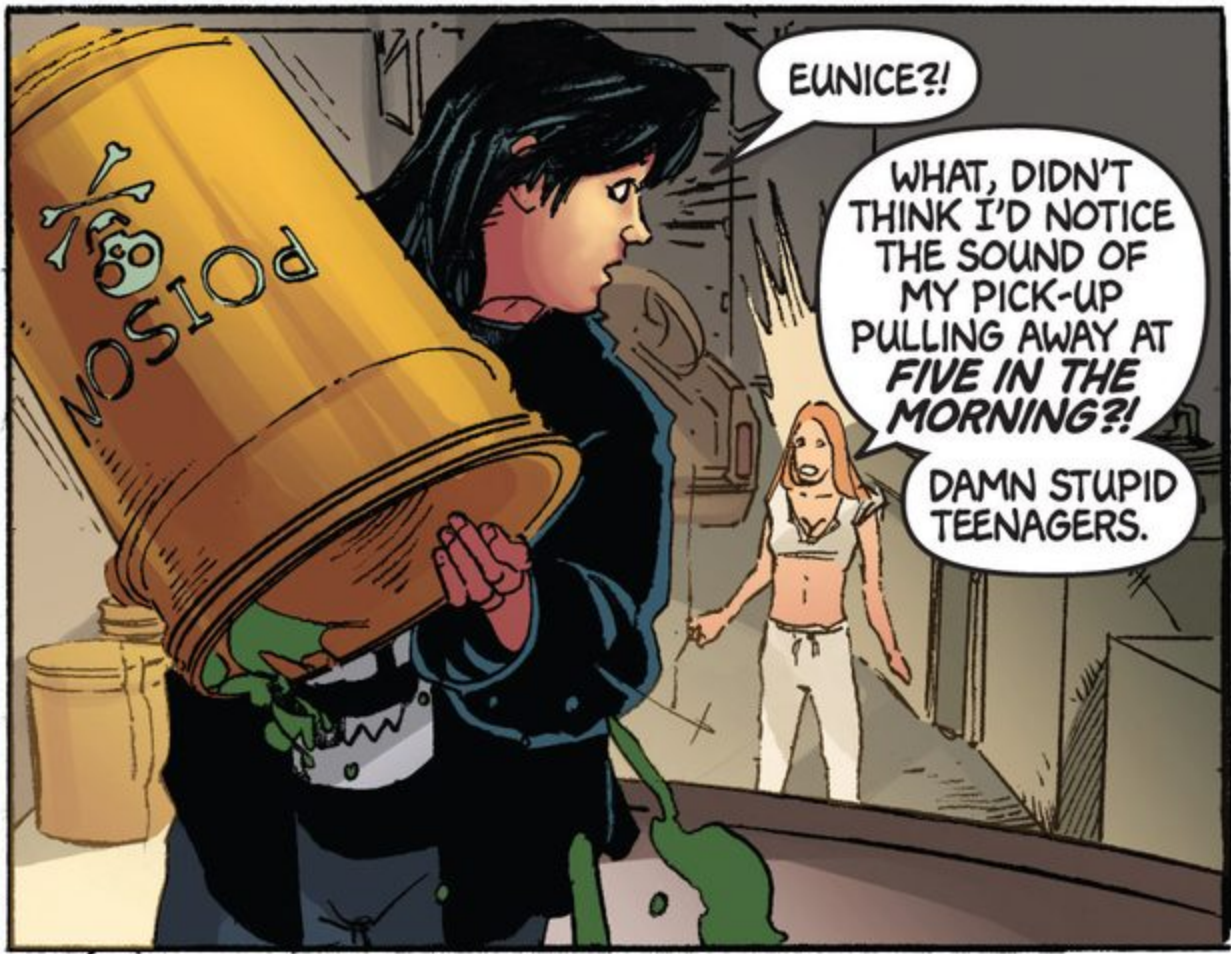


"MR. PRESIDENT...!"









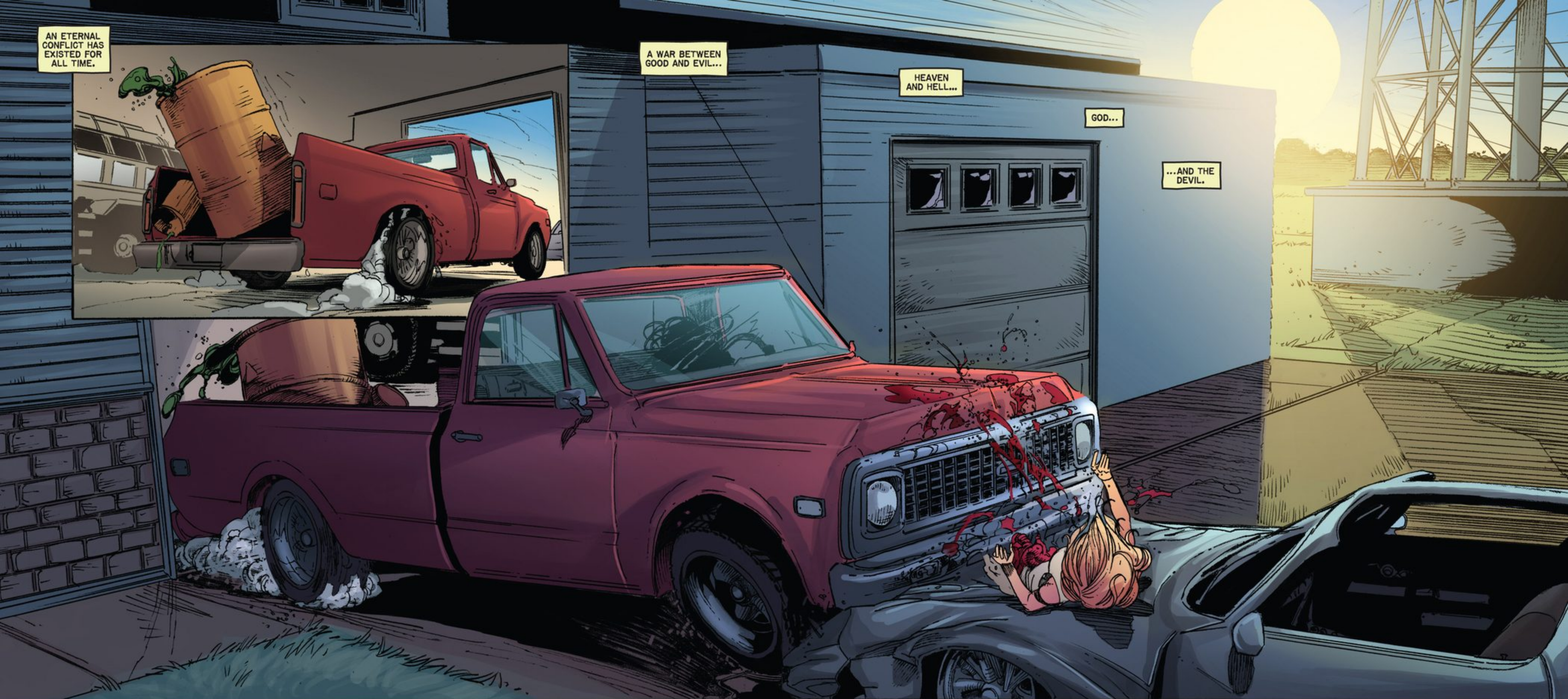
AN ETERNAL
CONFLICT HAS
EXISTED FOR
ALL TIME.

A WAR BETWEEN
GOOD AND EVIL...

HEAVEN
AND HELL...

GOD...

...AND THE
DEVIL.



AFTER DEATH,
MORAL SOULS RISE
TO HEAVEN AND
JOIN THE RANKS OF
GOD'S ARMIES.

IMMORAL SOULS
SINK BELOW AND
JOIN THE FIGHT
FROM THE
OTHER SIDE.

AS EVERYONE
KNOWS...

...THE
GOOD DIE
YOUNG.



COUGH!
CHOKE!



THIS IMBALANCE ON
EARTH KEEPS
HEAVEN STRONG,
AND HELL WEAK...

HUH-HUH...!



BUT WHAT IF
THE *REVERSE*
WERE TRUE?



WHAT IF THE
GOOD *DIDN'T*
DIE YOUNG?

HUH... HUH...
HUH--



WHAT IF ONLY
THE *BAD* DID?





REVENGERS...
DISASSEMBLE!



AH...RAISING AN
ARMY OF THE EVIL
DEAD, NOW THAT'S
WHAT I CALL
TAPPING INTO YOUR
POTENTIAL!



WHERE WE GOING,
ERN?

SAVE
THANA.

RIGHT!
SAVE THANA,
THEN KILL
BUFORD!



NO,
SMILEY. I'M
DONE. THIS ISN'T
WHAT I SIGNED
UP FOR.

WHAT?!
HOW'S
THAT?!



YOU MADE
A DEAL WITH THE **DEVIL**
FOR THE **POWER** TO MAKE THE
WORLD A **BETTER PLACE** AND
YOU JUST FINISHED RAISING AN
ARMY OF ALL THE **EVIL DEAD**
YOU **ALREADY** KILLED SO YOU
CAN **MURDER** YOUR **EVIL**
FOSTER FATHER!

I'M SORRY,
BUT **THIS...** IS
EXACTLY WHAT
YOU SIGNED UP
FOR!



NO.
IT
ISN'T!

I'M
SUPPOSED TO SAVE
PEOPLE FROM THESE
BASTARDS! NOT LEAD
THEM TO THE
SLAUGHTER!



BUFORD WAS
RIGHT... THIS
ISN'T **WORTH** IT.

I CAN COUNT
ON **ONE HAND** THE
PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN
KIND TO ME IN MY LIFE,
AND BECAUSE OF **MY**
ACTIONS TWO OUT OF
THREE OF 'EM ARE
DEAD!

BUT WHAT
ABOUT **BUFORD?!?**
YOU GOTTA **KILL**
BUFORD TO SEAL
THE **DEAL!**



FUCK THE
DEAL!



ALL RIGHT, *FUCK THE DEAL*, BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU?
WHAT ABOUT MY *FRIEND, ERNIE*?! THIS IS WHAT HE *ALWAYS WANTED!*
THE WRATH OF GOD, MAN!
YOU CAN HAVE IT! IT CAN BE YOURS! YOU'RE SO CLOSE TO EVERYTHING YOU'VE KILLED FOR!

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT ANYMORE.

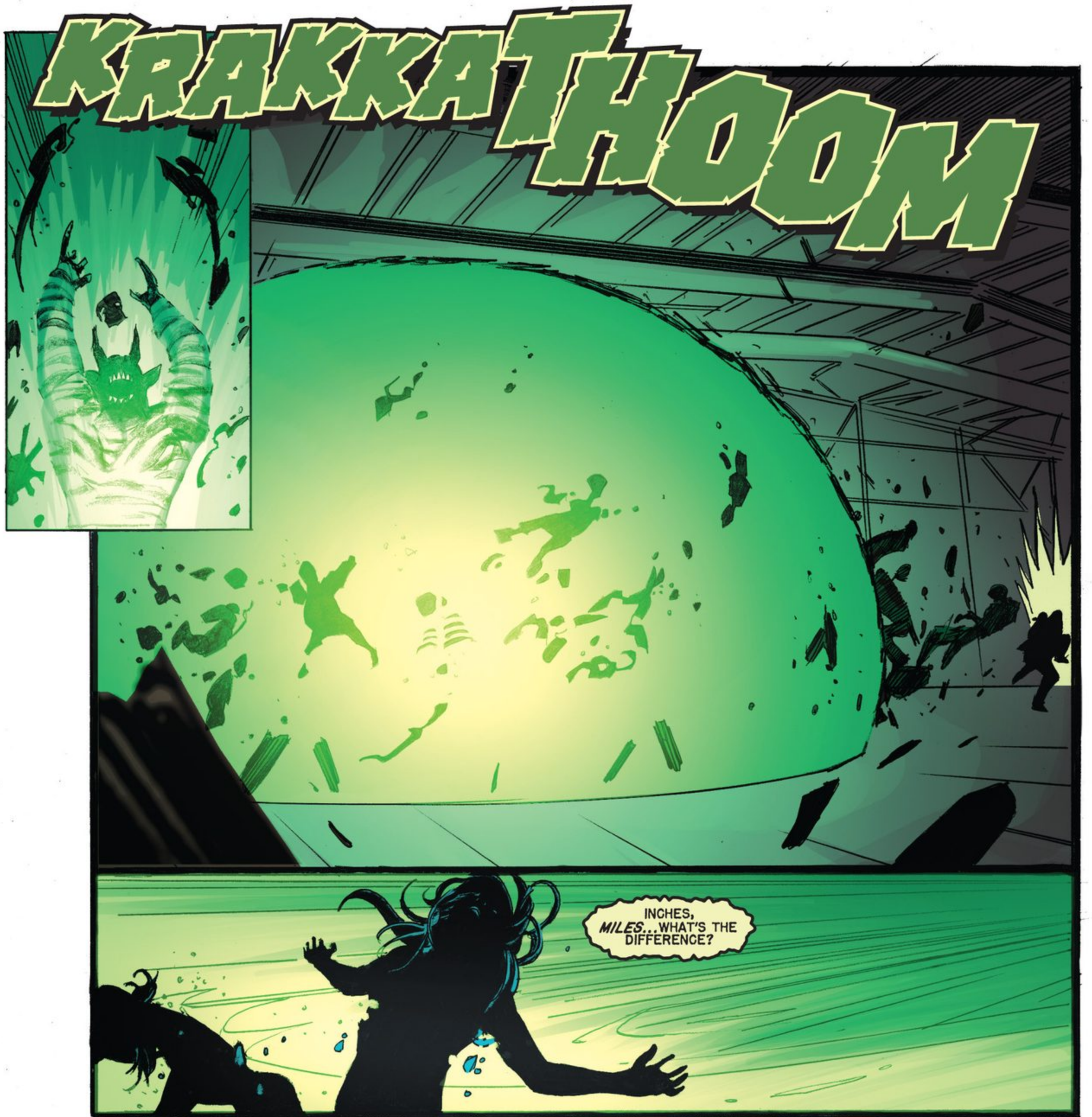


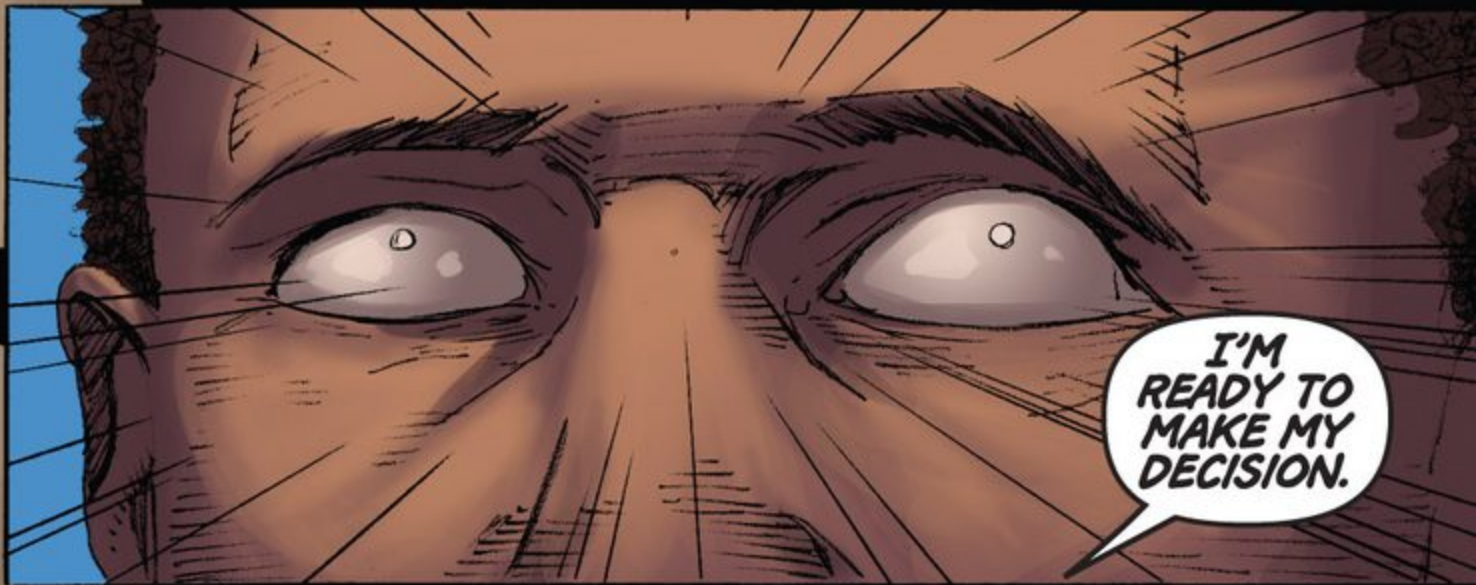
ALL I WANT...IS FOR *HER* TO LIVE.

BUT WE'RE SOOO CLOSE, ERNIE.
INCHES AWAY.

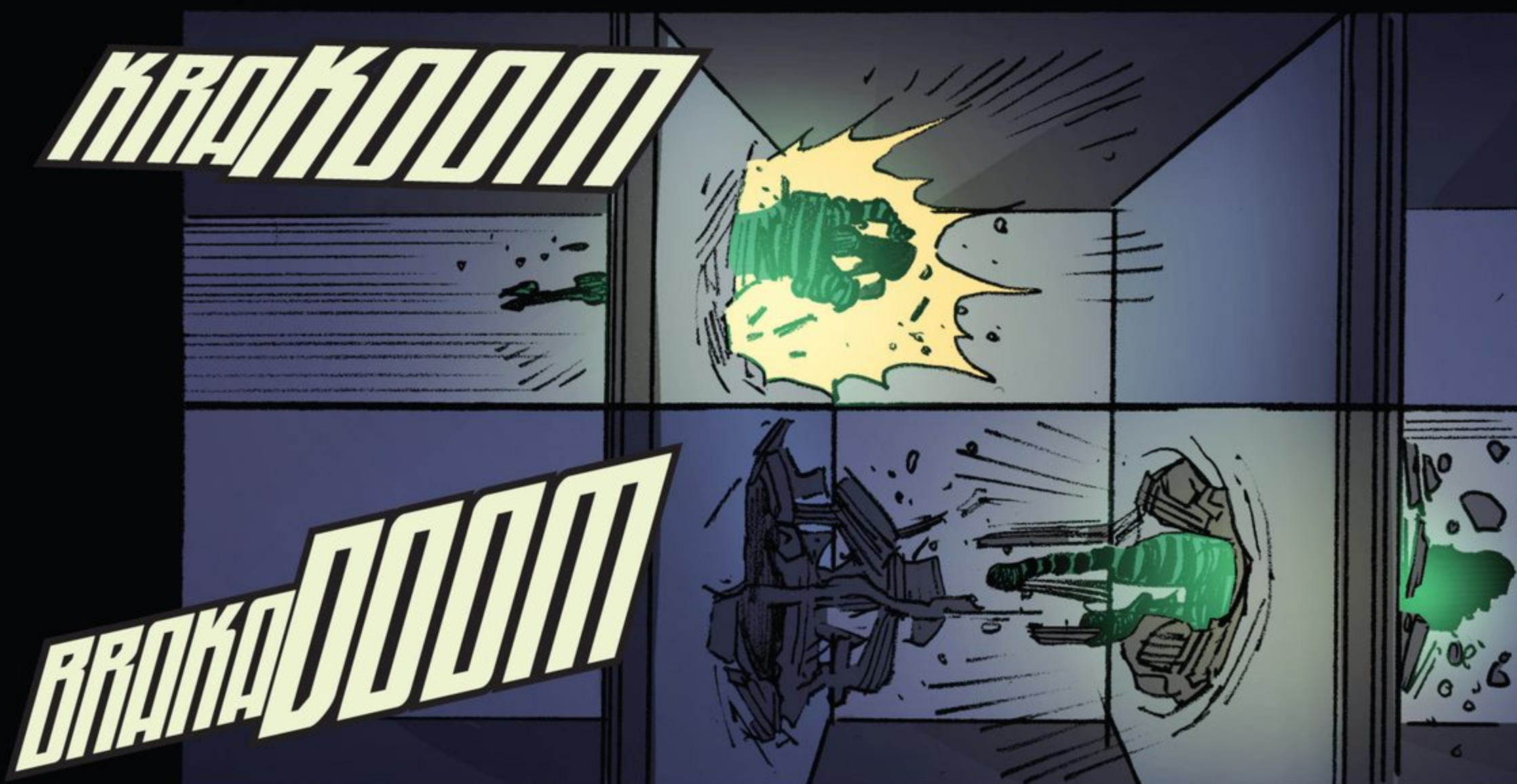


AAAAARRRRGGGHH!





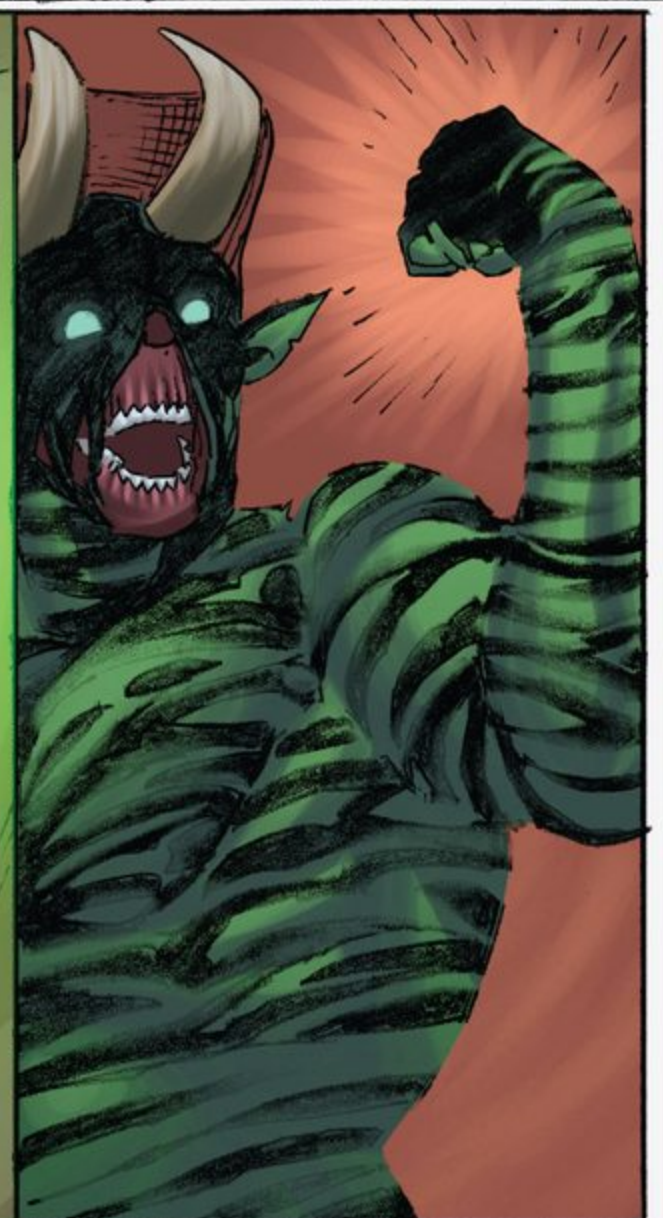
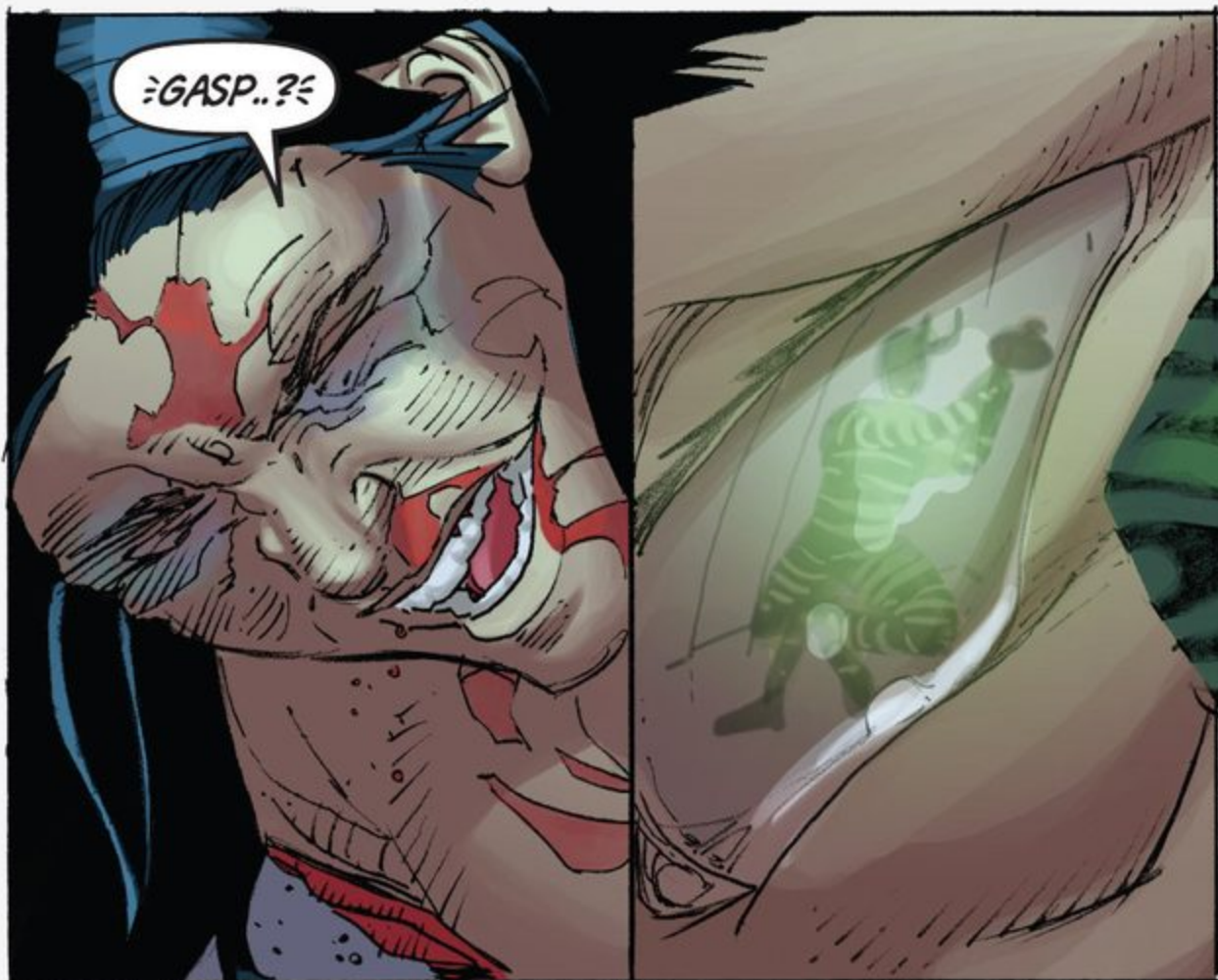






I DON'T
KNOW, ERNIE,
MAYBE LIFE
JUST AIN'T FOR
EVERYONE.







I WAS
WRONG,
BUFORD...



...THIS
IS WORTH
IT.

LONG
AS YOU
DIE
KNOWING
THAT... I'M
HAPPY.



NO...GOD...
PLEASE!



YOU WERE
ALWAYS
HEARTLESS...



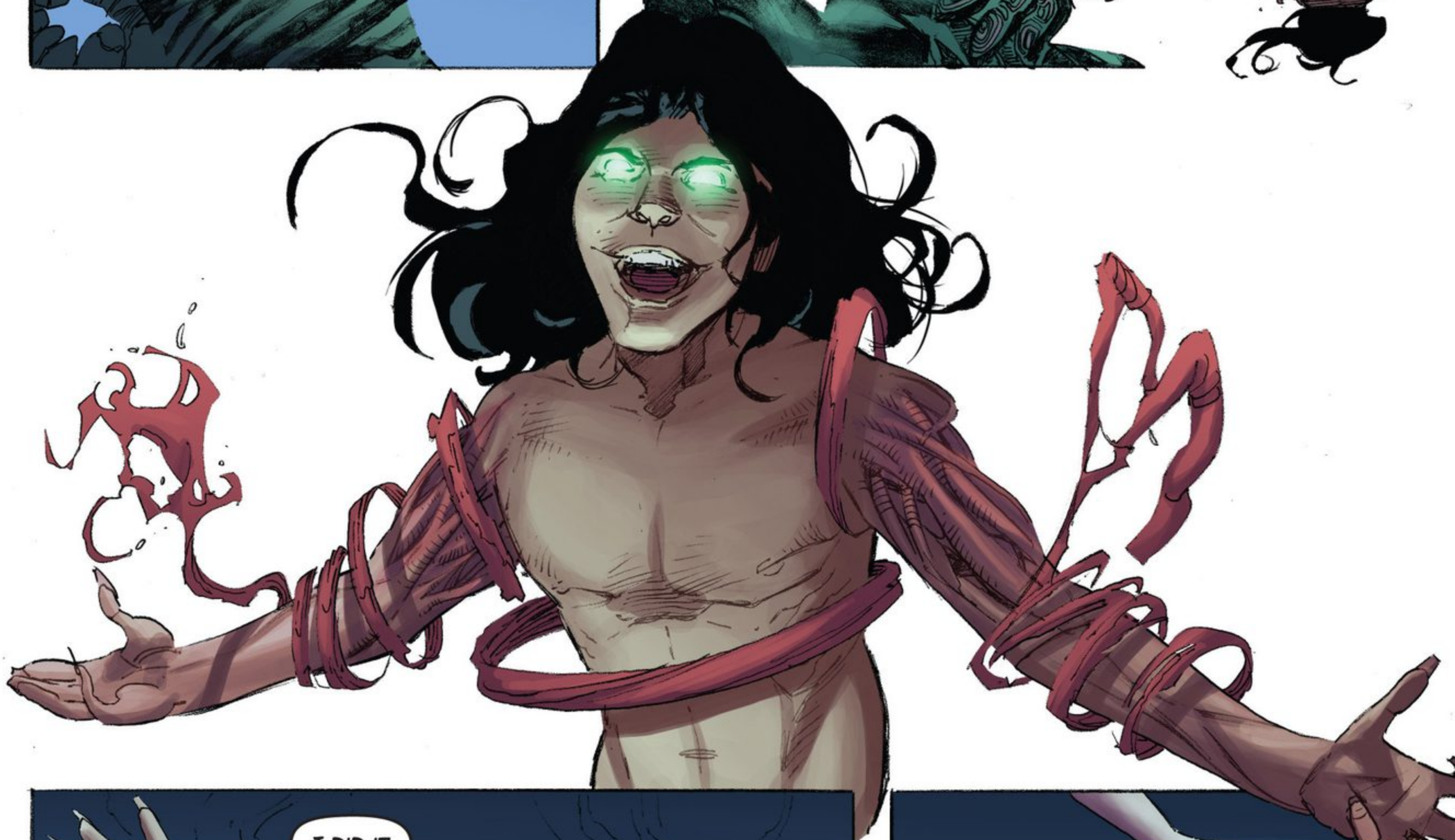
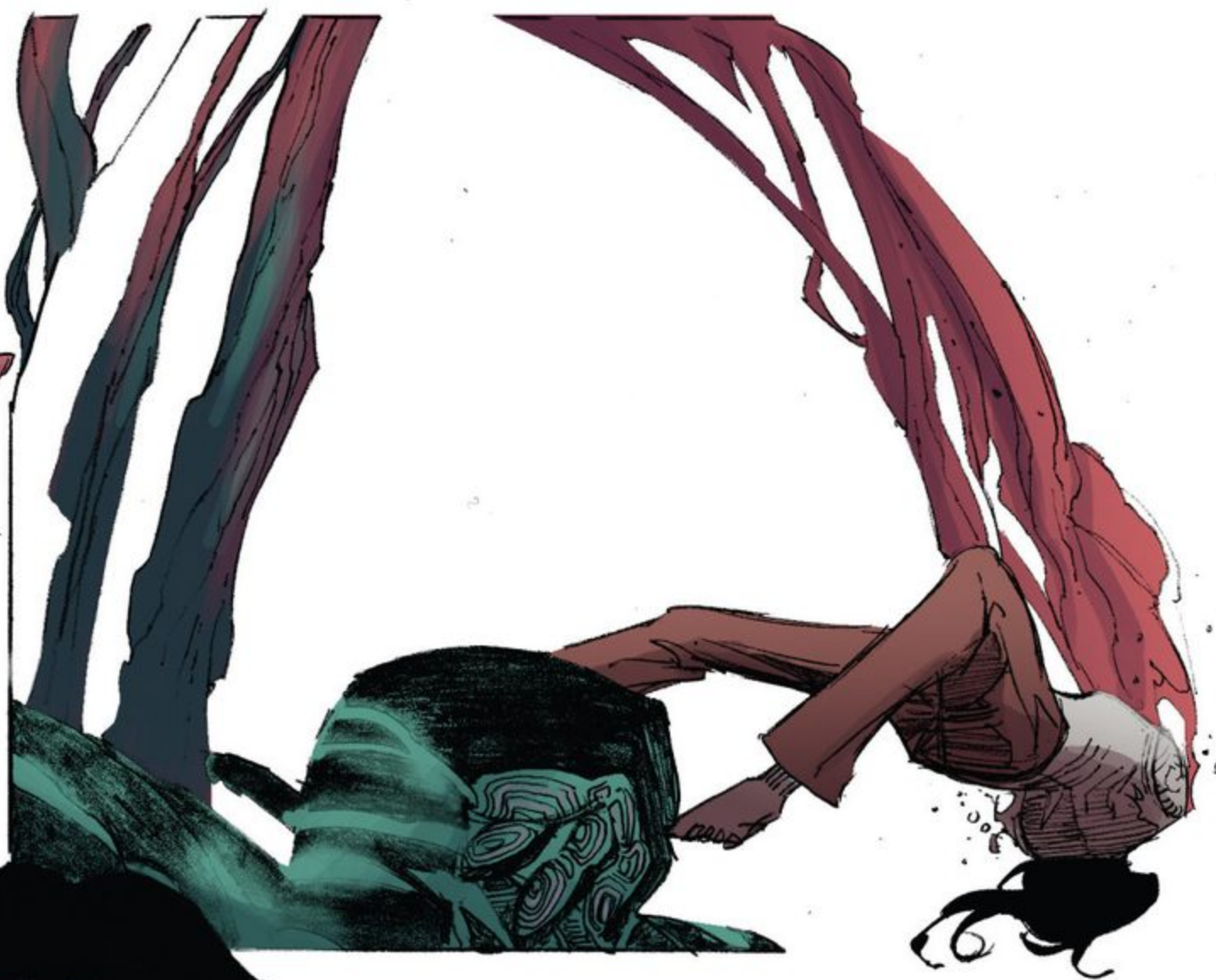
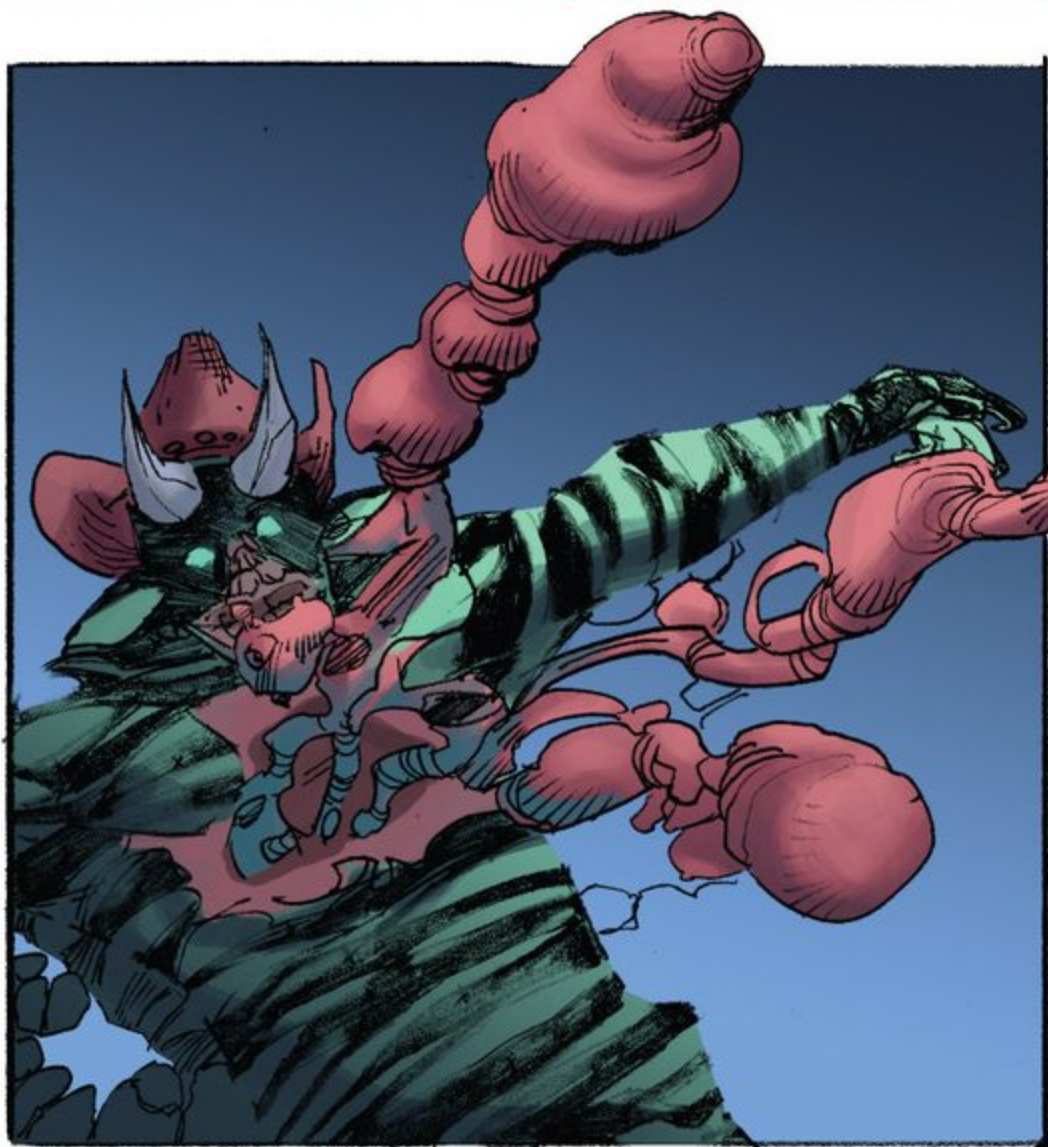
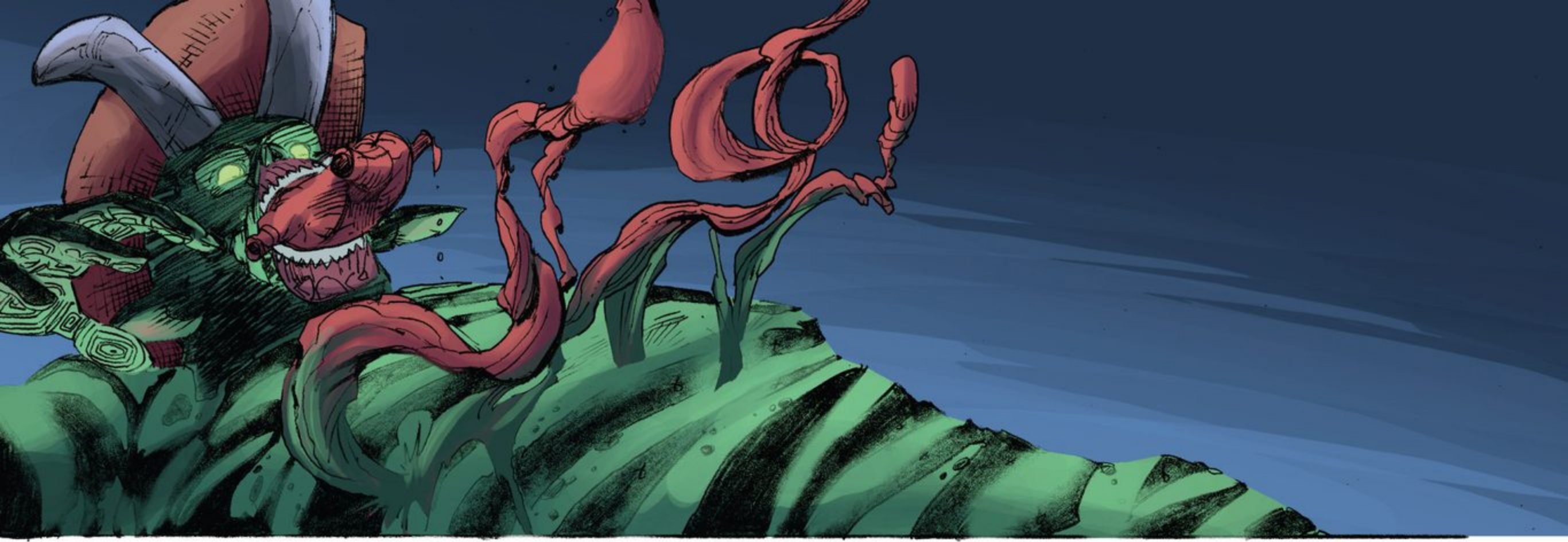
SPLT
AAARRRGGGHHH!



...NOW
EVERYONE
WILL
KNOW.

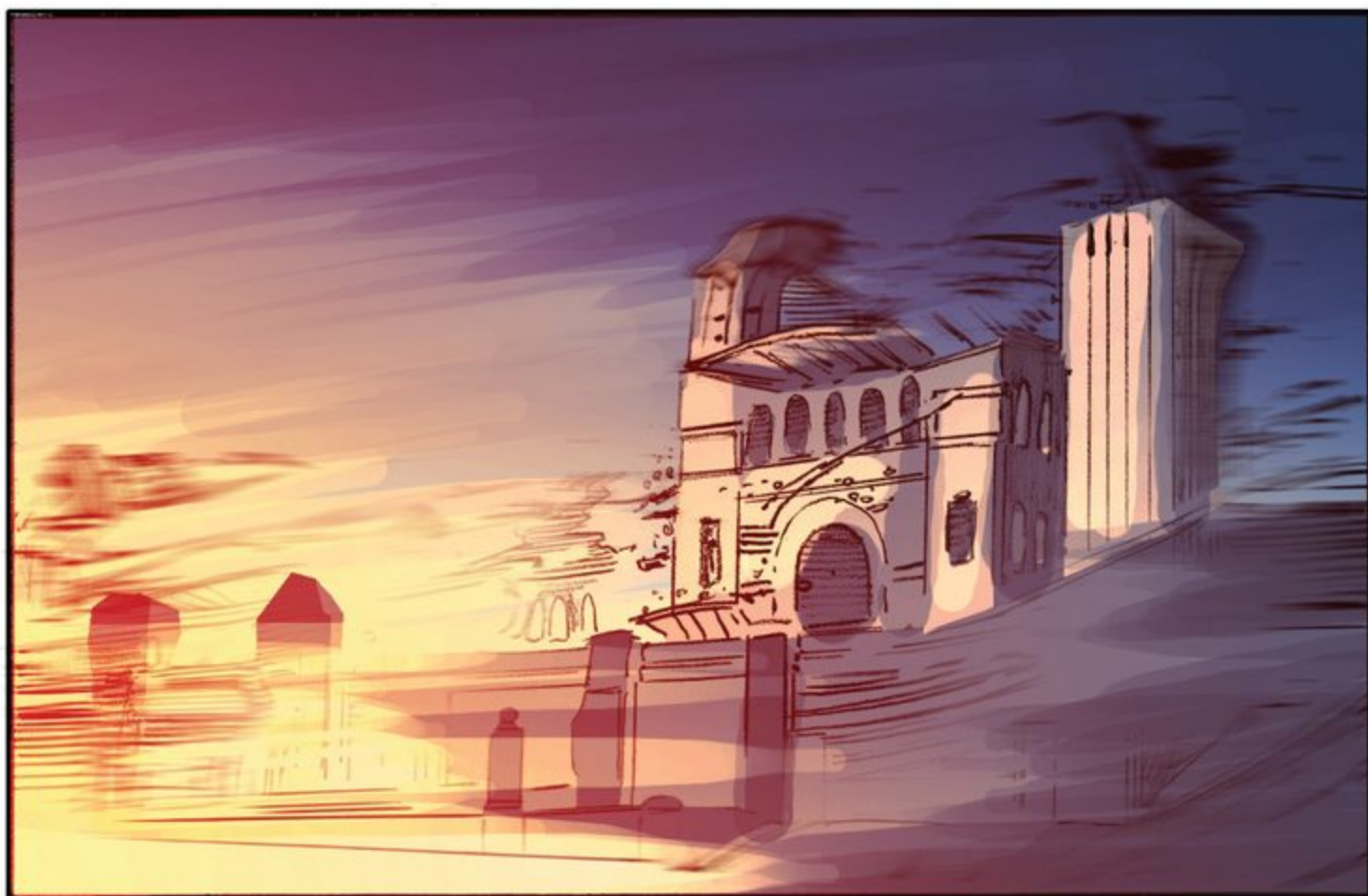
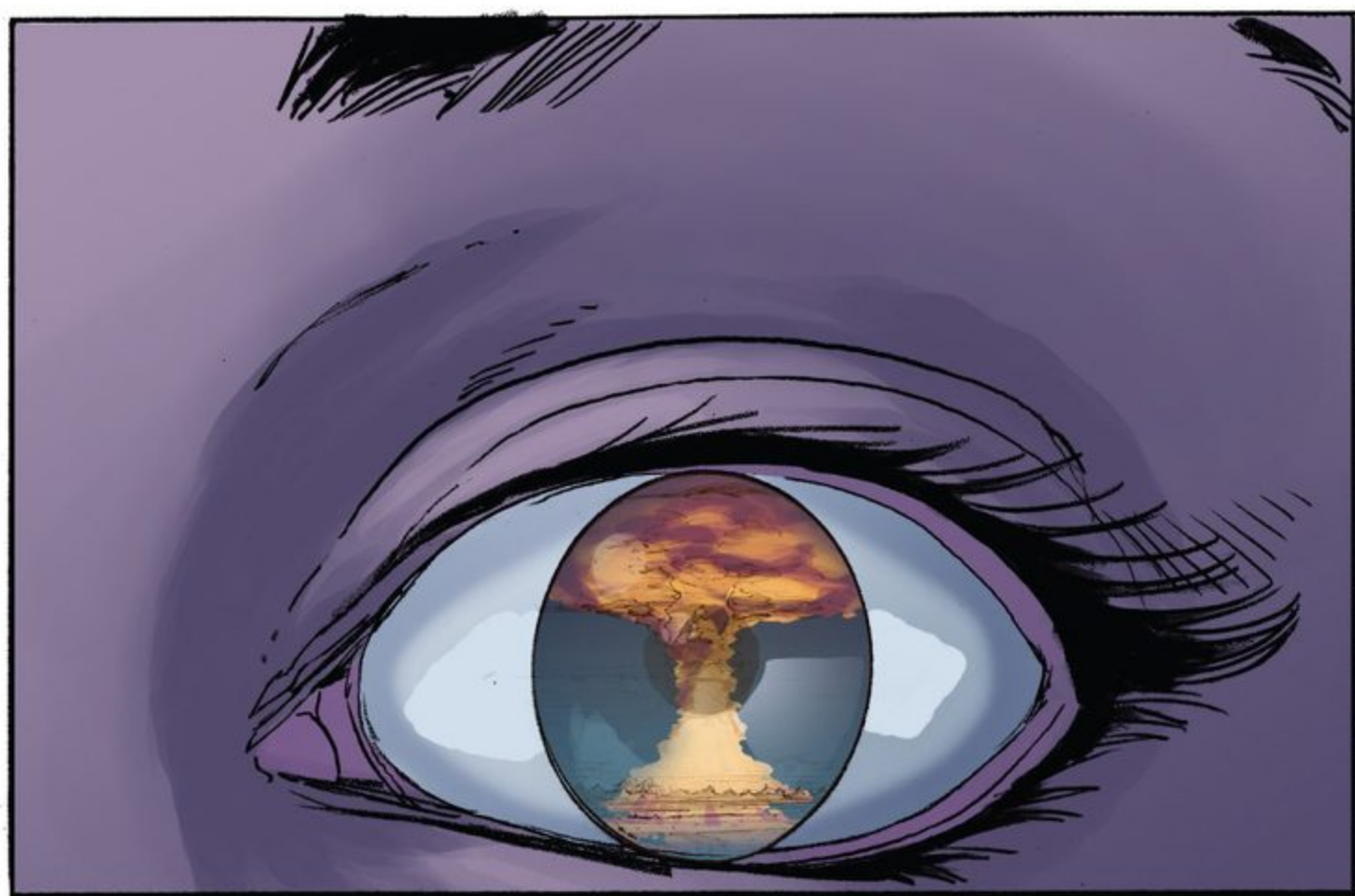


AAR--
GULP!

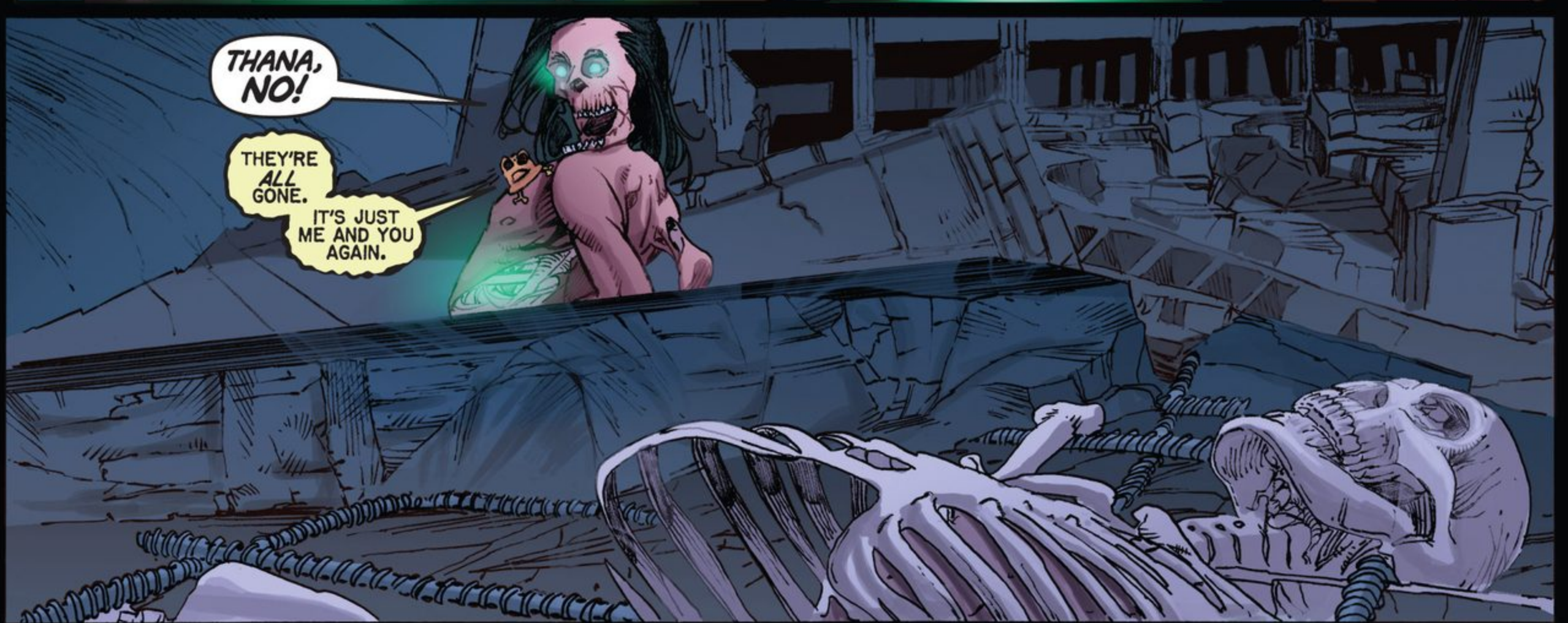


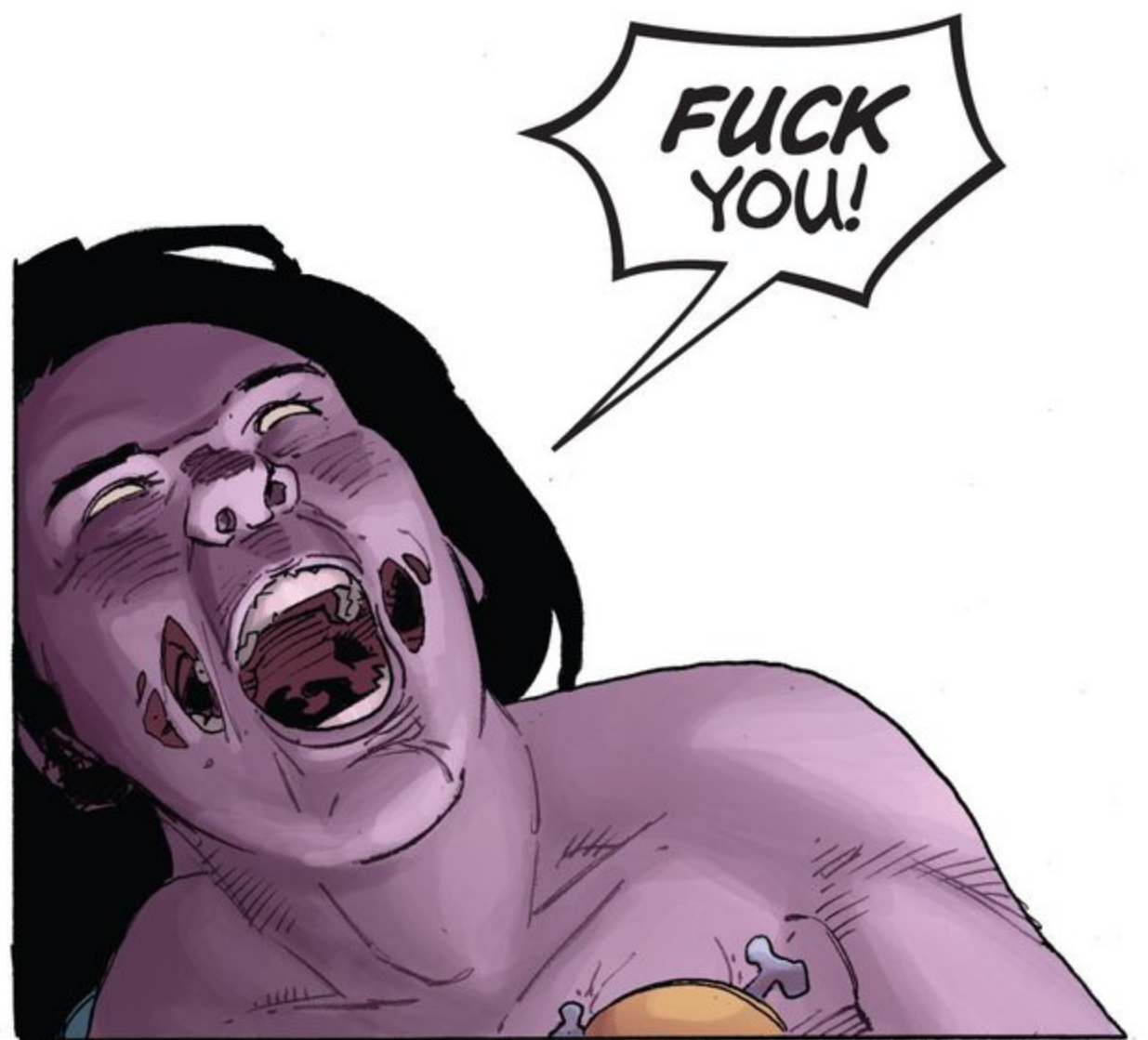




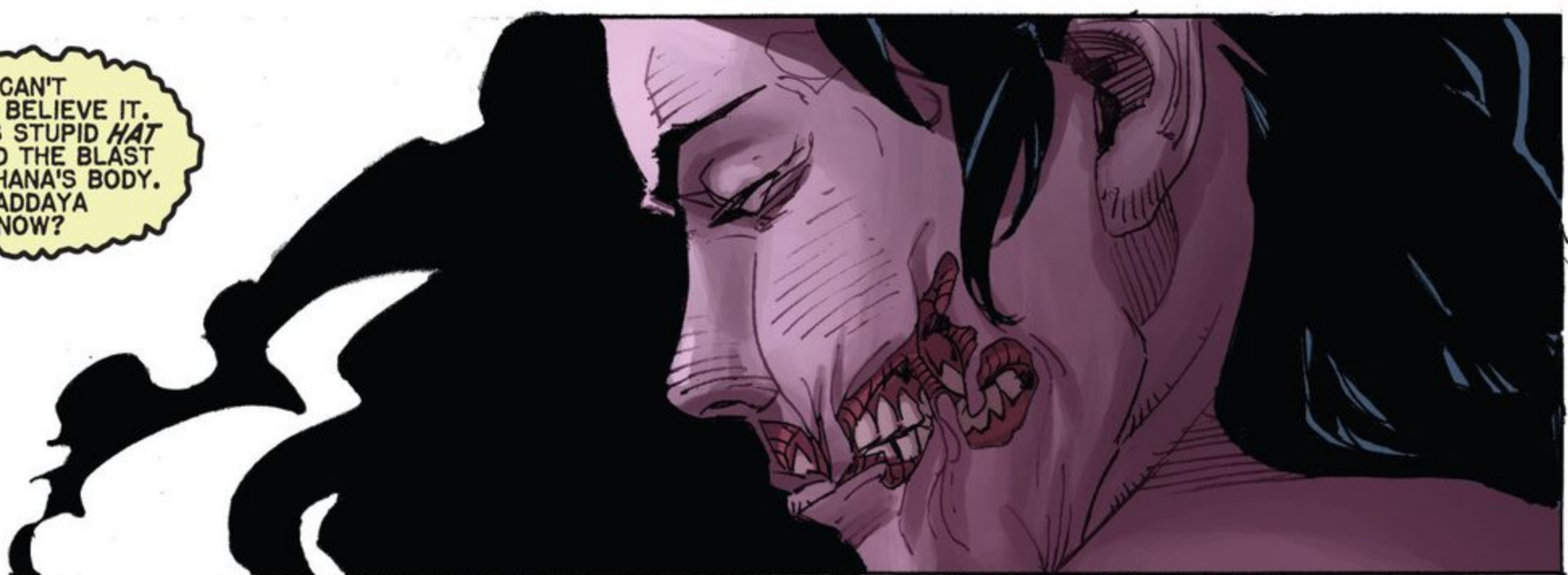








I CAN'T
FUCKING BELIEVE IT.
BUFORD'S STUPID *HAT*
SURVIVED THE BLAST
UNDER THANA'S BODY.
WHADDAYA
KNOW?



WHERE
WERE
YOU?

WHAT?

WHEN THE BOMB
WENT OFF, WHERE
WERE YOU?

I WAS...
I...I WAS
HIDING.

DID YOU
KNOW IT WAS
COMING?

WHAT?!
KNOW WHAT WAS
COMING?!

THE
BOMB!

NO!
ARE YOU
KIDDING ME?!
OF COURSE
NOT!

YOU DON'T
THINK I WOULD
WARNED YA?! I'M
YOUR BEST
FRIEND!

FINE.
WHATEVER.
I BELIEVE
YOU.

YOU'RE
WRONG,
THOUGH...





SO, WHAT 'S LIGHT WITHOUT DARKNESS?



GOOD...



...WITHOUT EVIL?



I GUESS WE'LL NEVER KNOW.

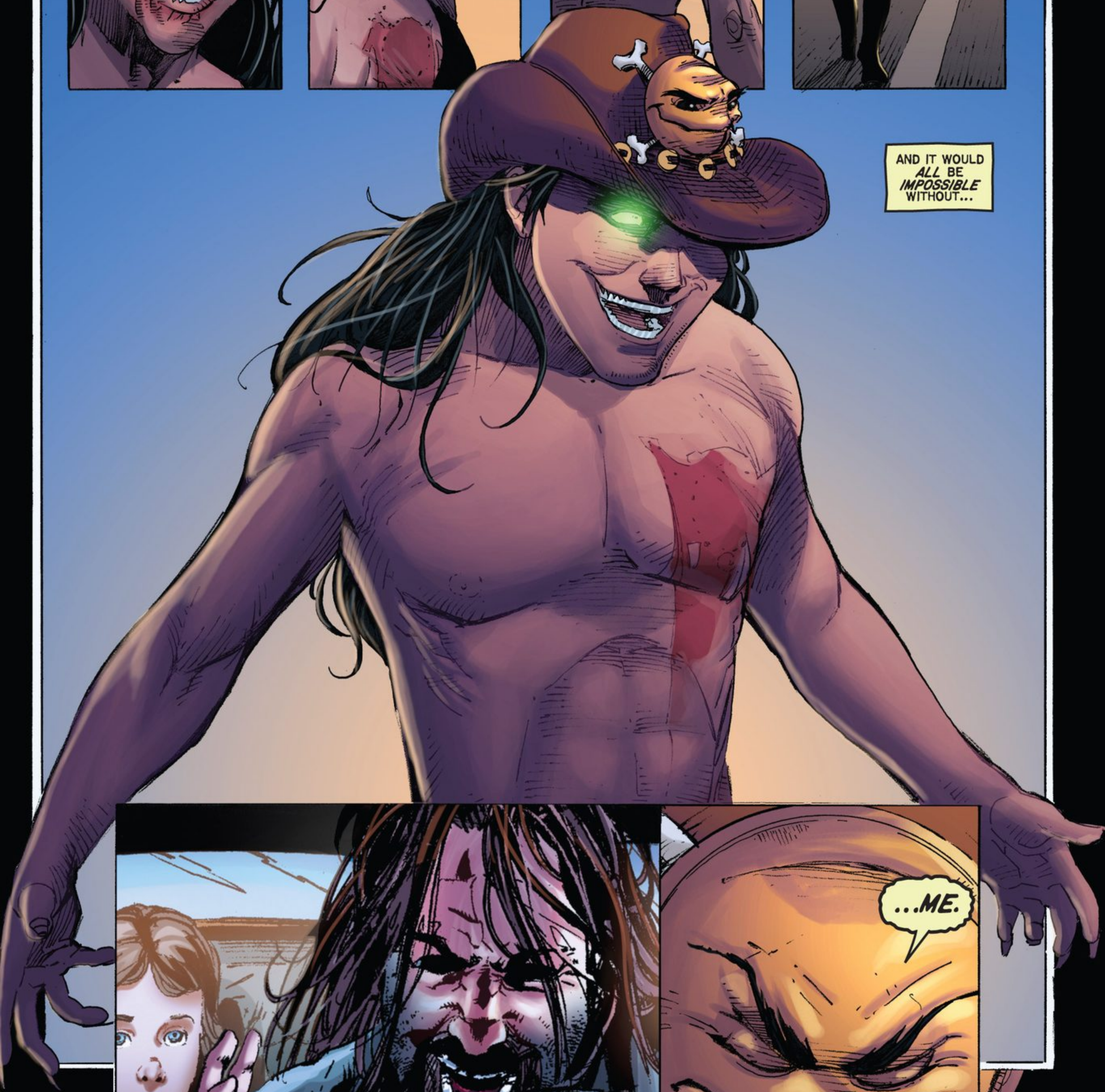


SIX HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIX SOULS...



...NONE TO GO.





AND IT WOULD
ALL BE
IMPOSSIBLE
WITHOUT...



END



EVIL ERNIE #1
ORIGIN OF EVIL: PART 1: WHO'S SMILING NOW?
WRITTEN BY JESSE BLAZE SNIDER

PAGE 1

1- An old, beat-up Mustang races through the streets of suburbia. A sticker on the back bumper reads "GRUNGE SUCKS!" (Art Note: If you'd prefer to draw this panel so that you can not see the back bumper, then just add a little extra panel with a close up of the bumper & sticker.)

CAPTION 1993.

FROM INSIDE THE CAR
ARRRGHHH!!!!

2- Inside the car is a 9-months-pregnant and currently laboring Metal Head Wife. To her left behind the wheel of the car is her calm and sincere metal head husband who is holding her hand, sincerely smiling and wearing a classic, black leather, biker jacket, with a smiley face button on the lapel. (Note: This is the jacket that Evil Ernie will inherit, so it should look exactly the same.) In the back seat they have a 4-year-old who is very concerned for his mother. The husband looks in the rearview mirror back at his son. (Note 2: The wife is NOT wearing a seatbelt.)

JOHNNY
Daddy, is Mommy gonna be okay?

HUSBAND
She's gonna be fine, little man. This is exactly how it happened when she gave birth to you.

3- From over little Johnny's shoulder we see the reassuring eyes of his father in the rearview mirror.

HUSBAND
I know it's a little scary, but Mommy is gonna be all right and in a few hours your little brother Ernie will be here!

JOHNNY
Like Ernie on Sesame Street?

4- Close up on the Husband's big, calming smile. He pleasantly surprised by the humor of his sons response.

HUSBAND
Yeah... just like Sesame Street.

We were thinking a changing your name to Bert? How'd that be?

5- The Husband has closed his eyes and has put his hand on his temple, like he is trying to rub away a headache. Johnny is behind him shaking his head, "No" with just a little bit of concern across his face.

JOHNNY
No... I wanna be "Elmo!"
...Are you okay, Daddy? ...Daddy?

6- Close up on a very eerie smile that has come across the Husband's face. It's not anything like his smile before, its unnatural and menacing. Like the Joker. Also in this panel we can see the smiley face button on the Husband's jacket and barely see Johnny in the back seat. He's terrified.

HUSBAND

Hmm... **that** never gets old. Been a while since I drove a car, though... hope I don't get into an *accident*.

7- Close up on the Husband's eyes, they're BLACK. Completely black. The Husband looks at his son in the rearview mirror, but now his stare is quite menacing. His eyes are pure BLACK and devoid of all love and emotion.

HUSBAND

What's the problem, "little man?" Look like you seen a ghost!

JOHNNY

Where's my daddy...?

HUSBAND

Your daddy's dead, sweetums...

8- Close up on the speedometer, its approaching 100 mph.

HUSBAND

...You **all** are.

PAGE 2 & 3

1- Inset in panel 2, we see the mustang jump the divider in the middle of the road, crashing through a telephone pole and heading towards a bus.

NARRATION

An eternal conflict has existed for all time.

2- The Mustang crashes hard into an oncoming bus and the wife crashes through the windshield! The whole front end of the car has caved in, forcing the engine inside and crushing the father. The top of the telephone pole has fallen on the roof of the car, caving it in on little Johnny's head.

NARRATION

A war between good and evil...

Heaven and Hell...

God...

...and the *Devil*.

3- Across the bottom of the two pages we see a few close ups: The husband lies dead and bloody, his pupils have returned, but he is still smiling ear to ear.

NARRATION

After death, moral souls rise to Heaven and join the ranks of God's armies.

4- Across the bottom of the two pages we see a few close ups: The blood splattered, smiley face button eerily matches the Husband's face. (Feel free to give it a Watchman nod.)

NARRATION

Immoral souls sink below and join the fight from the other side.

5- Across the bottom of the two pages we see a few close ups: In the back seat, Johnny is bloody in his car seat, you shouldn't be able to quite make him out, because the telephone pole has broken in half and caved-in the roof of the car obstructing Johnny's head. Blood drips down his arm.

NARRATION

As everyone knows...
...The **good** die **young**.

6- Across the bottom of the two pages we see a few close ups: There is a huge hole in the windshield where the Wife was thrown from the car.

NARRATION

This imbalance on Earth keeps Heaven strong and Hell **weak**...

7- Across the bottom of the two pages we see a few close ups: From inside the car, looking out the broken window, the wife is lying lifeless on the ground in a growing puddle of her own blood.

NARRATION

...but the forces of **Hell** have been *clandestinely* moving to tip the scales back the *other* way.

8- Across the bottom of the two pages we see a few close ups: Close up on the wife's pregnant belly.

SFX

Bump-ump... bump-ump...

9- Across the bottom of the two pages we see a few close ups: We see the unborn Ernie inside her belly, alive and well.

SFX

Bump-ump... bump-ump...

PAGE 4 & 5

1- A 13-year-old boy is walking down a two-lane highway exiting the town of Lucretia, the sign behind notes the population at 667. He is wearing the same leather jacket and smiley face button that the Husband wore in 1993. He has a longish black rock 'n' roll afro [see turn-arounds] and a look of determination on his face, as well as a lot of dry blood coming out of his nose. (Art Note: Think Andrew W. K.'s first album cover.)

CAPTION June 6th, 2006.

2- We move in closer as the boy walks on, sweating in the sun. He has black soot on his face.

3- The boy is wiping the blood off his face using his BLACK t-shirt. He looks sickly and his hands are dirty.

4- He continues on his long walk and now looks like he's been sweating for a while. His black shirt is soaked with sweat around his neck and armpits. The blood is off his face and Ernie's black t-shirt hides all evidence of it. He looks a lot better, but still looks like he just took a very long walk.

5- Finally across the bottom of the two pages we see a large maximum-security prison in the distance. This is where he is going. The money shot! (IMPORTANT Note: There should be a separate very small building on the grounds in the front of the prison that is the Execution Chamber. Make sure that this smaller building is present.)

CAPTION

WIDMARK MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON.

MAC (OFF-PANEL)

Name?

ERNIE (OFF-PANEL)
Ernest.

MAC (OFF-PANEL)
Full name?

ERNIE (OFF-PANEL)
Ernest Fairchild.

PAGE 6

1- Inside the prison, the boy approaches the window.

MAC
How old are you?

2- At the window, a guard is there to check in all visitors. He is African American and friendly, but a little suspicious of this boy. His name-tag says, "MAC." Though Ernie is sweaty and a bit dirty from the long walk, there should be no evidence of his earlier nosebleed.

ERNIE
Thirteen.

MAC
You here alone? Someone drop you off?

ERNIE
I walked.

3- The guard gets up from his chair and leans out of his window looking down the hall to check if there is anyone with Ernie. He is a bit confused.

MAC
Where from?

ERNIE
Lucretia.

MAC
Lucretia?! That's like, what? Twenty-something miles?
To come visit someone in a prison? How you planning to get home?

ERNIE
Walk.

4- Sitting back down, the guard furrows his brow as he questions the boy further.

MAC
Jesus... Hope he's getting out soon. You don't wanna go making this a habit. You look like you just worked a day in a sweatshop.
Couldn't your **mother** drive you?

ERNIE (OFF PANEL)
She works.

MAC
I been there. My moms used to work a lot too.

5- The guard grabs his clipboard smiles knowingly.

MAC

Look, I get off in about an hour; I'll give you a ride home, okay?

ERNIE

...Okay. Thank you...Mac.

MAC

You're welcome, Ernie... now, I'm dying to know; who you here to see?

ERNIE

Buford King.

MAC

Relation?

6- Close up on Ernie, he smiles. He's in. He's determined.

ERNIE

He's my father.

PAGE 7

1- Ernest waits patiently determined at a table in the visiting area of the prison.

2- Buford King is in an orange prison garb as he is escorted into the room in handcuffs by two guards.

BUFORD

Ernie...?

3- Establishing shot of Buford as he crosses the room and looks up at Ernie with a sneer. He is a skinny, white, piece of shit with religious tattoos of Jesus, crosses and Mother Mary on his arms and neck. The kind of guy no one wants to bring home to their mothers.

BUFORD

The fuck do **you** want...?

4- Close up on Ernie as tears of rage well up in his eyes.

5- Close up on Ernie's hand as he pulls out a big piece of broken glass!

6- Close up on Buford wide eyed as he looks back and goes to scream for help as a white blur swings past his mouth.

BUFORD

Gua--!

PAGE 8

1- Inset in Panel 6: Close up on Buford in shock as he cups his hand and catches the blood dripping from the huge slash across his mouth.

2- Inset in Panel 6: Ernie dives on top of Buford stabbing him in the gut and riding him towards the ground.

3- Inset in Panel 6: Ernie is intense and angry now, on top of Buford, stabbing him in the neck.

4- Inset in Panel 6: Close up as the shard stabs through Buford's hands as he tries to protect himself, but the shard continues straight into his chest.

5- Inset in Panel 6: Close up as Ernie stabs Buford in the side of his face creating a huge gash from the top of his right cheek to the edge of his jaw. Creating a sideways crucifix across his face.

6- Two guards have now torn Ernie off of Buford and one of them is trying to disarm him. Ernie is fighting with everything he has to get free and screaming at Buford, who is a bloody mess on the floor. The smiley face button on Ernie's jacket prominently smiles for him.

ERNIE

Who's smiling now, "**DAD**"?!

WHO'S SMILING NOW?!?!

PAGE 9

1- Establishing shot of Widmark Prison where Carmen Esposito is reporting live. She is an exotic looking white woman with dark hair and bedroom eyes who is standing outside the prison in front of at least a thousand protesters.

CAPTION NOW.

CARMEN

...Carmen Esposito, coming to you live from Widmark Prison, where **Ernest Fairchild** is moments away from becoming the **youngest** person to be **executed** in the United States in over **60 years**.

2- A shot of Esperanza from the side reveals her cameraman and a row of at least 10 other reporters broadcasting live, as well. This is a major story.

RANDOM REPORTERS & CARMEN (WHATEVER ORDER)

June 6th, 2006...

...The **Lucretia Massacre**...

Murdered 665 *people* in his adopted hometown...

...**Five** years on *Death Row*...

3- Esperanza gestures backward towards the prison and we focus in on a smaller building over her shoulder. It is the building where the execution is about to take place.

CARMEN & RADOM REPORTERS (OFF PANEL)

The protesters behind me run a wide range...

Friends and *relatives* of the victims...

Religious fanatics....

Satanist Cult members...

..*Anti Death Penalty* activists...

...and **everything** in between.

4- A shot of the protesters with various signs. Some protest the death of a minor, their signs say things like: "Baby Killers," "Cruel AND Unusual" & "Save ERNIE!" Others protesters seem to be suggesting that Ernie's death will bring about the Apocalypse with signs like "Ernie = Anti-Christ," "Don't make it 666" & "The End is HERE!" But there are also people supporting the decision with signs that say "Murder Has No AGE," "Eye for an Eye" and "KILL the BASTARD!"

RANDOM REPORTERS (OFF PANEL)

Earlier today...

An odd *last request* was honored...

...At the advice of prison psychologist Dr. Leonard Price...

5- Moving in closer over the crowd and through the fence, we see a prisoner in an orange jumpsuit being escorted towards the execution building by three prison guards.

RANDOM REPORTERS (OFF PANEL)

...Allowing Ernie to wear the **black leather jacket**...

...Infamous *smiley-faced* button...

...**During** his execution.

PAGE 10

1- Inside the execution chamber, a nearly 18-year-old Ernest Fairchild sits strapped into the electric chair. He is wearing an orange jumpsuit, with his infamous black leather jacket over it and the smiley-faced button on his lapel. He is very little and thin for an 18-year-old; not imposing at all. There should be a great bit of sadness soaked into his face. Seeing him there, just a kid, about to be executed, should tug at the heartstrings. Close over Ernie's shoulder is the kind face of prison Chaplain Joseph Moore, who is giving Ernie his "Last Rites" and making the sign of the cross on his own forehead. Over Ernie's other shoulder, leaning against the back wall of the room, is Doctor Thana Thomas. She is almost thirty and very beautiful, but very much a girl next-door type. She should be DARK SKINNED, MIXED RACE. I do NOT want her to be overtly sexy or voluptuous, she should look like a person who lives in the real world. She is sad about what is going to happen to Ernie. The mood of this panel should be very somber and dramatic. This is Marv in the electric chair at the end of Sin City.

RANDOM REPORTERS (OFF PANEL)

...Claims the button **speaks** to him.

...Helped him **sell** his *soul* to the **Devil**.

...Told him where to find the *arsenic*.

...How to deliver it into Lucretia's water supply.

CHAPLAIN

We give him glory as we give you into his arms in everlasting peace, to be prepared to return into the denser reality of God the Father, creator of all. Amen, Amen, Amen.

THANA

Amen.

RANDOM REPORTERS (OFF PANEL)

Despite this...

...Price claimed the jacket and button to have a "calming influence"...

...Like it or not...

...There's no doubt the **button** will be the only smiling face in the execution chamber.

PAGE 11

1- Close up on Ernie, he recognizes people entering the viewing chamber.

RANDOM REPORTERS (OFF PANEL)

Amongst the witnesses...

2- The entrance to the building is in the back of the room and three guards are escorting in a prisoner. Warden Samuel Straw (a tall, thin and lecherous man in an ugly gray suit with an evil grimace across his face at all times) leads the way.

RANDOM REPORTERS (OFF PANEL)

...Sole survivor...

3- Straw leads the heavily tattooed prisoner to his seat and shoots Ernie a knowing glance.

RANDOM REPORTERS (OFF PANEL)

...Fairchild's would-be 666th casualty...

...Almost died from blood loss...

4- From behind Ernie, we look out into the viewing area; it is filled to capacity with uncaring eyes. The thirty or so chairs are filled and there are a couple dozen people standing against the walls lining the room as well. But there is one empty seat in the middle of the front row, with a little paper sign that says "Reserved." A badly scarred Buford stand there, taking a bow before sitting down, smiling like the cat that ate the canary and cuffed at his hands and ankles. (Art Note #1: Remember all those cuts Buford suffered at Ernie's hands a few pages ago? Well they've all healed, bad. It's a prison hospital after all. Buford's outsides finally match his insides. So, go nuts! This is our bad guy for the next six issues, feel free to give him the gnarliest scars ever, but make sure they are thick and prominent on his face and scary. Art Note #2: In the second issue three of the witnesses will attack Ernie, it is important that they be present in the viewing area now. They are three atypical, white trash, hillbilly, trucker-types, who all have the same exact tattoo on their shoulders that says, "Bad Ass Mutha Trucker!" They don't have to be seen prominently in this issue, but it wouldn't be the worst thing if you can fit them in somewhere good.)

RANDOM REPORTERS (OFF PANEL)

...Stabbed over ten times...

...Scarred for life.

His foster father...

5- From over Ernie's shoulder we get an establish shot of Buford King in all his scarred glory, sitting in the middle seat in the front row, with only a thin sheet of glass separating him from Ernie. Buford is smiling so big it looks like his scars might reopen. You can see that determined look back on Ernie's face reflecting off the glass.

RANDOM REPORTERS (OFF PANEL)

...**Buford King** no doubt has conflicting feelings about today's execution.

BUFORD

Now who's smiling, you little bastard?

PAGE 12

1- Warden Samuel Straw enters the Execution chamber and starts talking to Ernie.

2- Straw gets in front of Ernie, breaking his eye-lock with Buford. He is being sadistically playful, almost sensual.

WARDEN STRAW

Like that?

Had to make sure your *daddy* was here to see you off.

3- Straw grabs Ernie by the face.

WARDEN STRAW

We're gonna miss you 'round here, Ernie.

4- Straw licks his pointer finger while staring at Ernie sensually.

WARDEN STRAW

You're gonna be hard to replace, that's for sure.

5- A look at Ernie looking back at Straw.

WARDEN STRAW (OFF PANEL)

Ah, well.

6- THIS is what Ernie sees: Straw looks like some sort of demon, with the word “PEDOPHILE” scarred into his head. (ART NOTE: The panels where we see Ernie’s psychic powers at work need to have a different hue to them than normal panels. Something that signifies Ernie seeing people’s sins.)

WARDEN STRAW

All good things...

7- Straw gives Ernie a firm, wet kiss on the forehead.

SFX

SMACK!

8- Warden Straw smiles while talking to Ernie.

WARDEN STRAW

Now unfortunately, I’m gonna have to miss all the **fireworks**. I’ve got a whole mess of TV news reporters outside just waiting to interview me. What can I say; everyone wants a piece of the man who had “*Evil Ernie*” put to death. But don’t you worry...

...I made your old man **promise** to fill me in on every detail.

Every detail.

9- Close up on Straw’s dirty, slimy, smiling mouth.

WARDEN STRAW

Happy trails, boy.

Try not to piss yourself when they flick the switch.

PAGE 13

1- As Straw goes to exit the chamber, he catches the disgusted gaze of Dr. Thomas and shoots her a look right back. Ernie looks back to see who he is speaking to.

WARDEN STRAW

What are you looking at, Dr. Bitch?

2- Thana throws Straw a dirty look.

3- Straw slams the door behind him.

SFX

SLAM!

4- Thana gives a small, waist level wave to Ernie, with a soft, sad smile.

5- Close up on Ernie’s hand waving from the electric chair’s bindings. The metal wrist straps prevent him from anything close to a real wave.

6- Thana looks down in sadness.

CHAPLAIN (OFF PANEL)

Do you have any last words?

7- The Chaplain stands next to Ernie and solemnly asks him a question. Ernie looks down and thinks about the answer.

ERNIE

...

8- Close up on Buford leaning up against the window with a smile.

ERNIE (OFF PANEL)

They were **evil**.

9- Close up on Ernie, adamant.

ERNIE

They were **ALL** evil.

PAGE 14 & 15

1- Through Ernie's eyes, we see the viewing room explode in righteous anger, demanding the boy's swift death. They all look like DEMONS. We see them all for the dark and evil souls they are, with sharp teeth, red eyes, pale cracking skin and their various sins carved into their foreheads: Asmodeus, Acedia, Sloth, Gluttony, Mammon, Pride, Lust, Anger, Bestiality, Rape, Abuse, Pedophilia, Adultery, Necrophilia, Rage, whatever. The few good souls in the room seem to glow with a heavenly light and wear pristine smiley face buttons they were not wearing before. Those few good souls are sitting solemnly and not angry like the others. In the middle of the room, is the scariest looking demon of them all, it's Buford. He is still smiling and unmoved by all the commotion. The word "WRATH" scarred into his forehead. In this panel, Buford is Ernie's focus, the other people are just background. He is the focus, but getting the feeling for how Ernie's sees people is important here. (Art Note: This should be the largest panel across the top half of page 14 & 15.)

ERNIE

I can see it. I can **always** see it.

They **deserved** to **die**...

2- Ernie's shocked as he looks out into the viewing room, they're almost all evil.

ERNIE

...And so does *they*.

3- Ernie struggles as demons approach him with a black hood.

ERNIE

No!

Buford needs to **die!**

4- Back to Ernie's perspective as the hood is now partially obscuring his view of Buford.

ERNIE

He's the one! He's the only one that matters!

THANA (OFF PANEL)

He believes it.

5- Thana is solemn behind Ernie as two guards ready him for execution. Thana is standing next to the Chaplain.

He really **believes** they were evil.

Thou shalt **not** kill, Doctor.

Even if you thought it would make the world a better place?

It wouldn't change anything. It's **evil**.

6- The Chaplain is understanding and nods his head reassuringly. She looks at him with tears in her eyes and appreciation across her face.

The **act** is evil... but **he** isn't.
Young... stupid. Probably even crazy. But **not** evil.
I can't be a part of this.

Go then.

7- Thana whispers in Ernie's ear. His posture is confused.

I'm sorry. I can't be a part of this.

8- Thana runs out of the room leaving Ernie alone, he calls to her blindly. As Buford looks on intrigued.

Doctor Thomas...?!

1- Small panel inset in panel 5. Close up on the Executioner and the switch to the electric chair as it's thrown.

CLICK/CLACK!

2- Small panel inset in panel 5. Close up on Ernie's face as he writhes in pain.

3- Small panel inset in panel 5. Close up on Ernie's hand as it vibrates in agony.

4- Small panel inset in panel 5. Close up on Ernie's smiley face button as electricity travels through it.

5- Ernie writhes in pain as 2,450 violent volts of current course through his body.

[illegible]

6- We cut outside to see Warden Straw being interviewed by Carmen Esposito. The two pause as the lights dim. Straw smiles but holds back from seeming too happy. Behind them, sad protesters and happy supporters stare at the dimming lights as well.

STRAW

Heh.

PAGE 17

1- Cut to inside the prison where we see Thana standing at the sign-in desk with tears in her eyes. “Mac” stands behind the desk in front of her and looks down solemnly. He is five years older and has a touch of grey to his hair. The lights dim around them.

THANA

I’m sorry, Ernie... I’m so sorry.

2- Inside Death Row, the inmates look up ominously, Ernie’s death is a stark reminder of their own pending doom.

3- Finally, we cut back to the viewing room where, front and center, Buford lets out a laugh.

BUFORD

HA!

Heh, heh. Tell the Devil I said, “Hi.”

4- The Chaplain is doing Thana’s job checking Ernie’s pulse; he is dead. The Guard/executioner is talking to him.

EXECUTIONER

Shouldn’t Doctor Thomas do that?

CHAPLAIN

She had to step out.

...He’s dead.

PAGE 18 & 19

1- Directly above the building, hundreds of green spirits are moving in from every direction and creating a vortex. The spirits should look like rotted corpses. There are six hundred and sixty-five of them. (Art Not: This is the most important image and should cover the top half of pages 18 & 19.)

2- The protesters and supports outside look up ominously at this unnatural storm. Their faces glow green from the light. Warden Straw is among them he is in nervous awe.

3- Thana and Mac looks out the window of the prison’s entrance door, confused by the unnatural storm.

4- Inside the execution chamber, the lights go out and the Chaplain seems to sense something is amiss.

CHAPLAIN

The lights...? Don’t we have a backup generator?

EXECUTIONER

Yeah. They should have come back on by now.

5- Buford is looking a bit confused and suspicious in the viewing room. He hears something.

BUFORD

You hear that...?

6- The storm of green souls has become a very tight and bright spiral.

BUFORD (OFF PANEL)
...Like **babies** crying.

PAGE 20

1- A bolt of green light shoots down from the center of it, through the roof of the building!
SFX
PPSSSSSHHHHHHHHHUUUUUUUTTTTT!!!!!!!!!

2- Ernie springs to life as hundreds of souls begin to enter his body through his chest.

ERNIE
ENNNNNMMMMMM!!!!!!

PAGE 21

1- Ernie has caught fire as more and more souls continue to enter through his chest. He is writhing in agony and the intense green flame has begun to burn through his hood, revealing his screaming face.

ERNIE
AAAAAARRRRRRRRGGGGGGGHHHHH!!!!!!!!!!

- 2- Everyone in the viewing chamber is mesmerized. Especially Buford.
- 3- Close up on the hot metal against Ernie's wrists as they burn through his flesh like butter straight to the bone.
- 4- Now a shot of Ernie's ankles as the metal around them burns through to the bone as well.
- 5- Ernie is still on fire, but the souls have all entered his body. Ernie's eyes are open and he is looking down at his stomach, which is glowing with green energy and looks like it's about to burst.

ERNIE
NO... NO, NO!!!

PAGE 22 & 23

- 1- Across both pages, Ernie's stomach explodes in a huge flash of green! You should be able to see the silhouette of his ribcage and jacket, as the light incinerates almost everything else. (Art Note: This is the part where his body ultimately transforms into the stomach-less, ribcage and hipbones Evil Ernie we all know and love. As the energy exploded out from within him, it took his flesh with it. Play it as you will.)
- 2- Blackness, with the faintest bit of a green glow in the center.

NARRATION
What is light... without darkness?

3- The Chaplain is on the ground looking up at something in disbelief. There's a faint glow of green, lighting his face

NARRATION (CONT.)
Good...

4- Buford and the other people in the viewing room are looking at the glow too. They're scared. The glow lighting their faces is getting stronger.

NARRATION (CONT.)
...without **evil**?

5- Close up on Ernie’s face, his head is tilted down and is lit, just barely, by the light emanating from his chest off panel. His eyes are closed and his mouth is shut. You can also barely see the edge of his smiley-faced button just beneath his chin to the right, but NOT its face.

NARRATION (CONT.)

Heaven has long been **afraid** to find out.

They should have destroyed us when they had the **chance**.

6- Close up. Ernie opens his eyes and smiles big and sinister. His eyes and mouth are unnaturally large and glowing bright green.

NARRATION (CONT.)

Six hundred and sixty-**five** souls...

7- Buford’s eyes go wide, as he wets his pants.

NARRATION (CONT.)

...**ONE** to go.

BUFORD

Oh, **shit**.

PAGE 24

1- Inset in panel 5. We see a close up on the back of Ernie’s smiley-faced button, something gross and organic is starting to grow from behind it.

2- Inset in panel 5. Close up on the front of the button, the line for the mouth is beginning to transform into a slit. It’s drooling.

3- Inset in panel 5. The button continues to grow more demonic and life like.

4- Inset in panel 5. The button is really coming alive now, baring its teeth.

5- We see EVIL ERNIE, in all his glory, in the middle of what’s left of the execution chamber. The Chaplain and guard who threw the switch cower on the floor. Ernie’s smiley-face button has come alive and smiles psychotically as he speaks. (Lettering Note: I want all of Smiley’s dialogue to be in yellow word balloons with white trim, like how Deadpool has different word balloons from everyone else.)

NARRATION (CONT.)

The Devil's work puts man's worst nightmares to shame.

SMILEY

Hate the sin...

TITLE & CREDITS

EVIL ERNIE in

ORIGIN OF EVIL: PART 1: WHO’S SMILING NOW?

WRITTEN BY JESSE BLAZE SNIDER

ILLUSTRATED BY JASON CRAIG

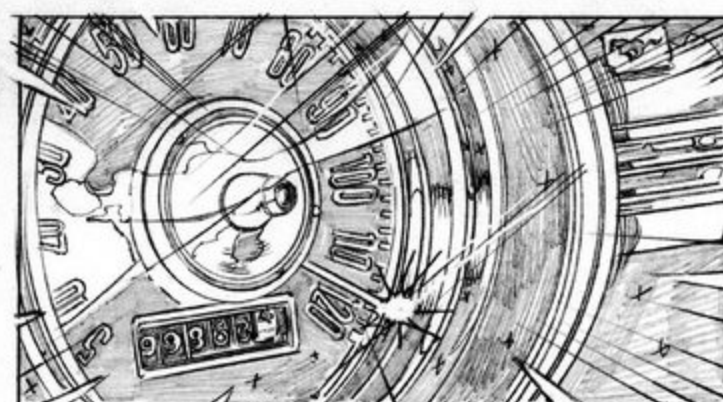
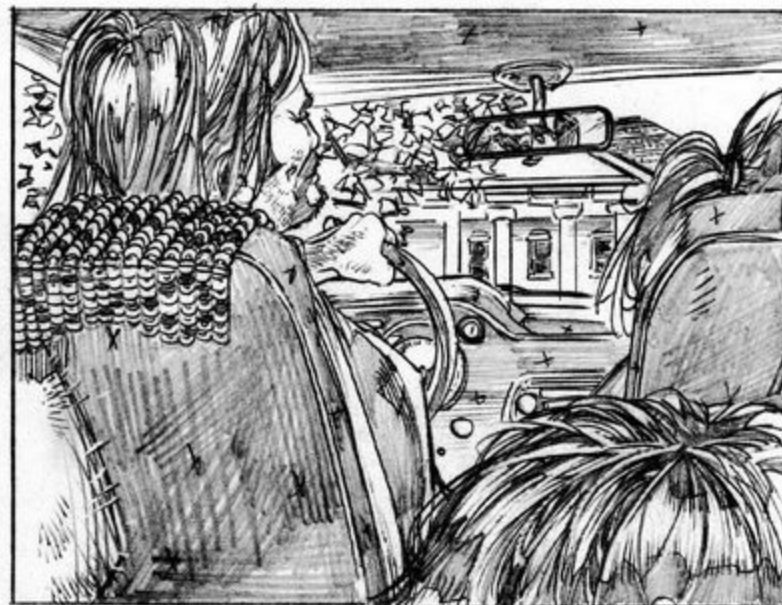
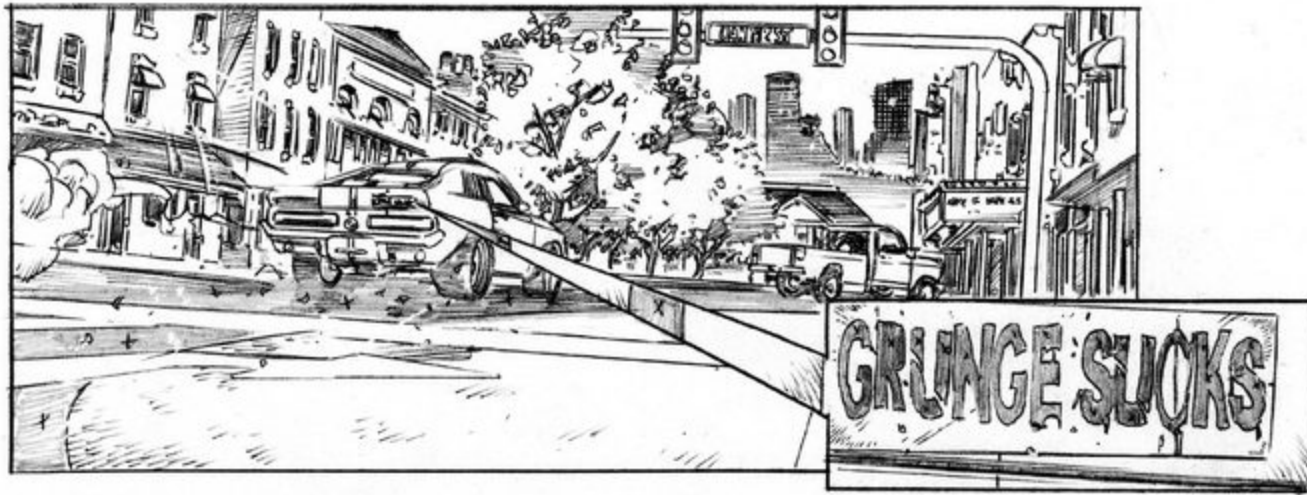
6- Inset in panel 5. Close up on Smiley in all of his demonic glory as he smiles and ends our first issue.

SMILEY

...**LOVE** the **SINNER!**

WRITER'S COMMENTARY

BEHIND EVIL ERNIE #1 WITH JESSE BLAZE SNIDER



PAGE 1

"GRUNGE SUCKS!"

EVIL ERNIE CAME INTO PROMINENCE AS A BIG ROCK HEADBANGER WITH ALL THE BELLS AND WHISTLES AT A TIME WHEN BEING SO WAS DECIDEDLY UNCOOL. ERNIE SPIT IN THE FACE OF THE TRENDS AND SUCCEEDED AT BEING THE POSTER CHILD FOR THOSE WHO REALLY DIDN'T CARE, WHICH IS WHAT GRUNGE WAS PRETENDING TO BE. I THOUGHT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT ERNIE'S PARENTS CAME FROM THE GENERATION THAT CREATED ERNIE. I KNOW THAT CREATOR BRIAN PULIDO WOULD WEAR THAT "GRUNGE SUCKS" BUMPER STICKER WITH PRIDE.

PAGE 2 & 3

"It's A BOY!"

I HAVE 2 KIDS. SO, I'VE DONE THE MAD DASH TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM TWICE NOW AND EACH TIME, YOU CAN'T HELP BUT THINK, "WHAT IF WE GOT INTO A CAR ACCIDENT RIGHT NOW?" I MEAN, YOU'RE SPEEDING, A WIFE WITH CONTRADICTIONS DISTRACTING YOU & YOU MAY EVEN HAVE OTHER KIDS FREAKING OUT THE WHOLE TIME! I REMEMBER QUITE CLEARLY THINKING, IF SOMEONE WANTED TO STRIKE ME DOWN AT THE ABSOLUTE WORST TIME, THIS WOULD BE IT. IT'S HORRIFIC. IT SCARES ME. IF I WERE SADISTIC THAT'S PROBABLY WHEN I'D STRIKE. IF I WERE SATAN, ITS A DEFINITE.

PAGE 4 & 5

"6-6-06"

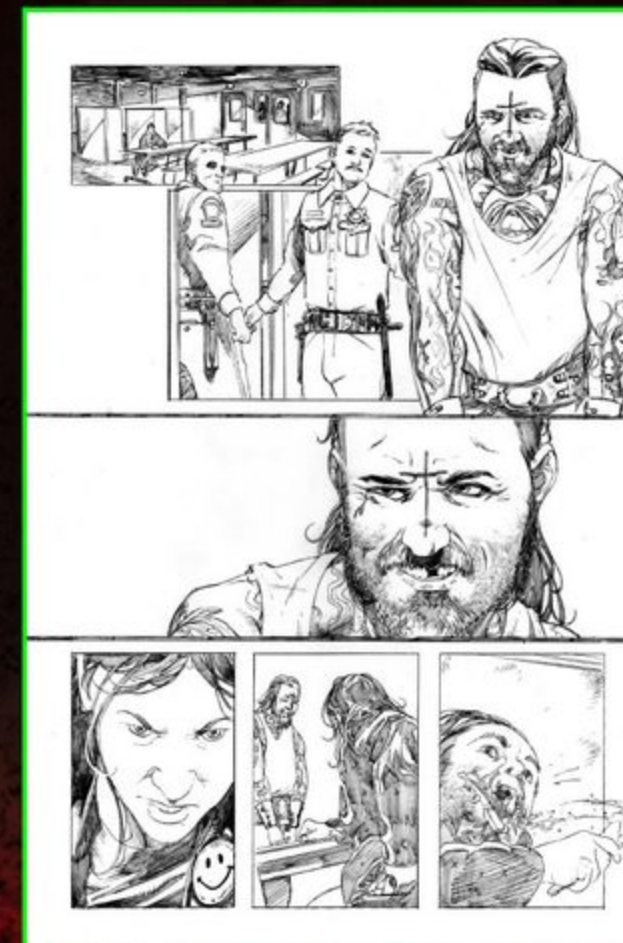
THANK SATAN THAT ARTIST JASON CRAIG TOOK THE TIME TO BRING WIDMARK PRISON TO LIFE! NOW WE CAN DESTROY IT.

PAGE 6

"MAC"

THIS PAGE IS A BIT OF A CON. I KNEW WHAT ERNIE WAS AT THE PRISON TO DO, BUT I WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT NOT ONLY DIDN'T READERS SEE IT COMING, BUT SELL THEM ANOTHER STORY THAT THEY'LL NEVER ACTUALLY READ.

WE ALSO GET TO SHOW ERNIE FOR HIS TRUE NATURE. HE'S NOT A BAD GUY. AT LEAST, IF YOUR'E NOT A BAD GUY.



PAGE 7

"THE FUCK DO YOU WANT...?"

A FEW PEOPLE ACROSS THE INTERWEBS HAVE CRIED FOUL AT ERNIE GETTING A WEAPON PASS THE "METAL DETECTORS" - BUT THOSE PEOPLE DIDN'T LOOK CLOSE ENOUGH AT WHAT ERNIE IS HOLDING. IT'S A BIG SHARD OF BROKEN GLASS. I THOUGHT IT WAS PRETTY GENIUS. I MEAN, WHO EXPECTS ANYONE TO VISIT A PRISON SO THEY CAN KILL SOMEONE IN THE FIRST PLACE? WHEN DOES THAT HAPPEN? IT HAPPENS WHEN THE MURDERER'S **ONLY** OBJECTIVE IS TO KILL. ERNIE DOESN'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS AFTER HIS FOSTER FATHER IS DEAD.

PAGE 8

"WHO'S SMILING NOW?!"

THANKS TO JASON CRAIG AGAIN FOR MAKING THIS BRUTAL! THE SHOT OF ERNIE'S FACE REFLECTING IN THE GLASS THAT HAS BEEN STABBED INTO THE SIDE OF BUFORD'S FACE IS PARTICULARLY EERIE. ERNIE IS A MAN ON A MISSION HERE AND THOUGH HE ULTIMATELY FAILS, THIS IS CERTAINLY A WORTHY FIRST ATTEMPT AT HIS FOSTER FATHER'S MURDER.

PAGE 9

"...COMING TO YOU LIVE!"

I CHOSE TO FILL IN A LOT OF BLANKS IN THIS ISSUE WITH VARIOUS REPORTS FROM DOZENS OF REPORTERS. BASICALLY TURNING OUR INFO DUMP INTO A FLURRY OF ANECDOTES. I TURNED EVERY COMMENT INTO A THOUGHT FRAGMENT AND TRIED TO GIVE IT A FLOW, LIKE POETRY. GROUPS OF 3 WHENEVER POSSIBLE. THIS WAS ALSO A GREAT WAY TO GIVE THE FEEL THAT THIS WAS A VERY IMPORTANT STORY BEING COVERED BY EVERY NEWS OUTLET IN THE COUNTRY.



PAGE 10

"AMEN."

THIS WAS THE FIRST MONEY SHOT I HAD IN MIND. ERNIE IN THE CHAIR READY TO BE PUT TO DEATH STARING AN UNCARING WORLD IN THE FACE. IN A PERFECT WORLD, I'D HAVE HAD ANOTHER TWO PAGES WHERE I'D HAVE HAD THE PRISON SECURITY TAKE THE JACKET OFF FORCIBLY AND ERNIE STRUGGLE TO PART WITH IT.

WHEN HE LATER TRANSFORMED HE WOULD PUT IT BACK ON. BUT YOU NEED SPACE TO SELL THAT STUFF IN A COMIC AND THERE WAS NOWHERE TO PUT IT. SO, WE KEPT IT ON. ERNIE BEING PUT TO DEATH IN THE JACKET IS UNLIKELY, BUT DUE TO THE BEHIND THE SCENES MANIPULATING THAT HELL HAS DONE JUST TO GET US HERE, I DON'T THINK ITS COMPLETELY UNREASONABLE AS YOU WILL EVENTUALLY COME TO SEE. THIS WAS THE ONLY ASPECT OF THE BOOK I FELT WAS A STRETCH, BUT WORKING AROUND IT KILLED MY PACING, SO WE KEPT IT LIKE THIS.

PAGE 11

"BUFORD KING"

MY FAVORITE PAGE IN THE BOOK. THAT'S ERNIE'S ABUSIVE FOSTER FATHER BUFORD. I'D NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE THIS PAGE, BUT I RECOGNIZED HIM IMMEDIATELY. THANK YOU JASON CRAIG FOR BRINGING THIS BASTARD TO LIFE. HE ONLY GETS MORE REALISTIC AS THE BOOK GOES ON! I HAD AN IMAGE IN MIND OF COURSE AND THE SIDEWAYS CROSS SCAR WAS MY IDEA, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT HE LOOKED LIKE UNTIL JASON DREW HIM. HE'S BECOME MY FAVORITE CHARACTER I'VE EVER CREATED. I LOVE WRITING HIM. ITS A PITY ERNIE WANTS TO KILL HIM SO BAD. WHEN THIS FIRST ARC WRAPS UP, JASON HAS PROMISED ME A PORTRAIT TO HANG ON MY WALL.

PAGE 12

"WARDEN STRAW"

ANOTHER VILLAIN WHO JASON BROUGHT TO LIFE. THAT COMB OVER AND ORAL FIXATION CAME STRAIGHT FROM JASON'S SICK MIND AND ELEVATED YET ANOTHER CHARACTER DESCRIPTION INTO SOMETHING TRULY UNCOMFORTABLE & DESPICABLE.

PAGE 13

"DOCTOR BITCH"

THANA WAS THE ONE CHARACTER WHO HAD TO TAKE A BACKSEAT TO EVERYONE ELSE IN THE FIRST ISSUE, BUT I HOPE THAT AS OUR READER SEES MORE OF HER THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF OUR FIRST ARC, SHE WILL ENDEAR HERSELF TO YOU ALL. THERE IS ANOTHER AMAZING BUFORD SHOT HERE TOO.



PAGE 14 & 15

"I CAN SEE IT. I CAN ALWAYS SEE IT."

ITS EASY FOR A WRITER LIKE ME TO COME UP WITH IDEAS LIKE, "ERNIE SEES ALL SINNERS FOR WHAT THEY REALLY ARE, FUTURE DEMONS," BUT ITS AN ARTIST LIKE JASON WHO HAS TO ACTUALLY SELL THAT. I NEVER DESCRIBED A PANEL THAT WAS SPLIT BETWEEN ERNIE'S VISION **AND** REALITY. THANKS TO JASON CRAIG FOR THINKING OF IT, ITS BRILLIANT.

PAGE 16

"KLIK-KLAK!"

TE GREAT THING ABOUT ERNIE WEARING HIS JACKET AND BUTTON TO HIS EXECUTION IS THAT WE GET THAT AWESOME PANEL OF THE ELECTRIC CURRENT COURSING THROUGH THE BUTTON! REMINDING US WHY THEY PROBABLY WOULD HAVE SHOT THIS IDEA DOWN OR WHY THEY SHOULD HAVE. GREAT VISUAL THOUGH. THE GREAT VISUAL IS A LOST ART IN COMICS. OF COURSE, (INSERT RANDOM CHARACTER) WOULDN'T BE IN HIS SUPER HERO COSTUME DURING THAT MOMENT IN HIS LIFE, BUT VISUALLY THIS IS **WAY** MORE INTERESTING!

PAGE 17

"HA!"

MY 2ND FAVORITE PANEL OF THE BOOK, BUFORD LAUGHING. I WANTED TO GET A HUGE LONG LAUGH FROM BUFORD, BUT IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO DRAW THAT, SO I DESCRIBED A HARDY BIG LAUGH FOR SIMPLICITY. THANKFULLY, JASON DELIVERED A SINGLE SHOT OF LAUGHTER THAT SEEMS TO GO ON FOR AN ETERNITY.



PAGE 18 & 19

"YOU HEAR THAT...LIKE BABIES CRYING."

SIX YEARS IS AN AWFUL LONG TIME FOR SIX HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIVE SOULS TO HAVE TO WAIT TO EMPOWER AN UNDEAD HOMICIDAL MANIAC, BUT I LIKE TO THINK THE WAIT WAS WORTH IT. THIS IS OF COURSE WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED SIX YEARS EARLIER IF ERNIE HAD SUCCEEDED IN KILLING BUFORD THE FIRST TIME, BUT NOW IT HAPPENS MINUS ONE SOUL.

PAGE 20

"EEEEAAAGGGHHH!"

I TOLD JASON THAT WE HAD 665 SOULS AND THEY WERE ALL TRYING TO GET INSIDE ERNIE, LIKE SPERM IN AN EGG. HE TOOK THAT PRETTY LITERALLY.

PAGE 21

"No!"

THIS STOMACH AIN'T BIG ENOUGH FOR THE SIX HUNDRED AND SIXTY SIX OF US! AND YES, ERNIE DID PEE HIMSELF, WOULD YOU?

PAGE 22 & 23

"BLLRRRCCHHH"

THANK LETTERER TROY PETERI FOR THE GREAT SFX! I STINK AT SFX AND ASKED HIM TO RAISE THE BAR AND GIVE ME BETTER OPTIONS AND BOY DID HE EVER! GREAT PIECE OF ART, BUT MADE SO MUCH BETTER BY THE KILLER SOUND EFFECT! THE PACING OF THIS PAGE IS GREAT. WHILE A LOT OF IT WAS IN THE SCRIPT, IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN EASILY MISUSED BY ANOTHER ARTIST, BUT JASON ARTFULLY SENDS US OFF ON OUR FIRST GREAT CLIFFHANGER.

PAGE 24

"Who's SMILING NOW?"

It's **SMILEY**! WHEN I TOLD JASON CRAIG THAT I WANTED TO MAKE SMILEY MORE REALISTIC AND SLIMEY, HE JUMPED AT THE CHANCE TO DESIGN HIM AND ELEVATE THE REINCARNATION OF ERNIE'S DEAD PET RAT (THAT IS WHAT SMILEY ORIGINALLY WAS) AND TURN HIM INTO SOMETHING WITH A LOT MORE POWER, MENACE AND BACK STORY INTEGRAL TO ERNIE AND HELL'S PLANS FOR HIM. IF YOU'RE A FAN OF SMILEY, WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE WHERE WE BRING HIM!





COVER GALLERY





issue #1 cover by ARDIAN SYAF





issue #1 cover by DAN BRERETON







BRERETON
XII















issue #4 cover by ARDIAN SYAF









issue #5 cover by ARDIAN SYAF

Syaf
Kyle Rimmel



















EVIL ERNIE®



COLLECTION FEATURES

- Issues one to six of the series by Jesse Snider and Jason Craig
- Complete cover gallery featuring the art of Ardian Syaf, Dan Brereton, Joe Quesada, Stephen Segovia and many more!
- Writer's commentary on issue one
- Issue one's script by Jesse Snider

Ernest Fairchild was a kind, gentle soul... until one day something snapped, leading him to launch the most notorious killing spree in American history! What led an ordinary boy to become a leather-clad angel of death? How does he wield such blasphemous power? And what is the sinister secret behind the foul-mouthed, smiley-face button that incites him to kill? The founding fiend of Chaos Comics is back, reinvented for a new generation!

"Craig's visuals and some new twists to the mythos, makes this reboot of an old character seem fresh despite the fact that the main character is a decaying corpse."
— Ain't It Cool News

"This book contains the amount of violence you would hope for and expect with the character. The killings are varied and you don't feel like you're seeing the same things over and over. Jesse Blaze Snider is crafting a new origin for Ernie and, as a new reader, I'm enjoying seeing how it all unfolds."
— Comic Vine



D.R. & QUINCH

